

UAE welcomes foreign troops on its soil

ABU DHABI (AP) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) announced Sunday it welcomes the deployment of Arab and "friendly" forces on its soil and Western troops to force Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait. "The United Arab Emirates has agreed to receive some Arab and friendly forces as a contribution to the Arab and international efforts being carried out to defend the region," said a Foreign Ministry statement carried by the official Emirates News Agency. It came on the eve of the scheduled arrival of U.S. Defence Secretary Richard Cheney who was in Bahrain after a visit to Saudi Arabia. The brief statement said the decision was in line with the charter of the United Nations and the Arab League, the Arab Joint Defence Pact, the U.N. Security Council related to the Gulf crisis and the emergency Arab summit convened in Cairo after the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait. The United States has led a multi-national buildup of land, air and naval forces in the region.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية، الراي

Gujral, Aziz meet in Baghdad

NICOSIA (R) — Indian External Affairs Minister Inder Kumar Gujral, concerned about tens of thousands of Indians in Iraq and Kuwait, held talks in Baghdad Sunday with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz. The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the two men discussed "relations between the two friendly countries and stressed that they were eager to expand these relations to promote their joint interests." They also dealt with "the latest developments in the region as well as a number of issues of common interest." INA said, Gujral arrived in Baghdad from Amman where he said he was going to the Iraqi capital because of his government's deep concern for the welfare of Indians in Iraq and Kuwait. He also said India's economic interests were "deeply involved in this region." He said it was not clear if the 172,000 Indians in Kuwait and approximately 10,000 Indians in Iraq were free to leave. Several hundreds of Indians have been among thousands of people to cross from Iraq into Jordan overland since the Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait. Special flights are taking them home (see page 3).

Volume 15 - Number 4473

AMMAN MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1990, MUHARRAM 29, 1411

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

King visits GHQ, PSD

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, Sunday paid a visit to the Armed Forces Headquarters, where he met with its Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb and discussed with him various issues.

The King, accompanied by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, also visited the Public Security Department, where he met with its director Major-General Fadel Ali Fuhaid and senior officers and issued his directives.

Baghdad accuses U.S. of piracy

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz Sunday called U.S. shipping interdiction efforts in the Gulf "piracy and armed aggression" and demanded the international community condemn them, the Iraqi News Agency said.

In a letter to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar Sunday, Aziz pressed separate incidents a day earlier in which U.S. warships fired shots towards two Iraqi oil tankers that refused to stop, the agency said.

"Such acts are clear proofs that America is permitting itself to commit piracy and armed aggression on high seas against Iraq," Aziz said in the letter.

He mentioned a third shooting incident Sunday that the U.S. Defence Department could not confirm. The Iraqi News Agency gave no details about the third incident other than to say it occurred in the central part of the Gulf.

U.S. military sources said Sunday American warships may shoot to disable Iraqi tankers and other vessels if they continue to defy the multinational coalition blockade in the Gulf.

Officers who asked not to be identified by name acknowledged that the enforcement effort began Friday had appeared ineffective in its first significant test, but said it was doubtful that the administration of U.S. President George Bush would let Iraqi ships continue to defy the ban indefinitely.

One noted that the United States "has the means" to block the ships by disabling their radars, with gunfire. "I wouldn't want to speculate too much, but that appears to be the next logical step," he said.

Other officers had said earlier that destroying the steering gear was the most feasible means of stopping a ship without the risk of sinking it or endangering its crew or cargo.

U.S. marine General George Crist, former commander of U.S. forces in the Gulf region, conceded in a recent interview with the Associated Press that there could be a danger of an oil spill if a loaded tanker was hit, "but that's just the chance you'd have to take."

The Pentagon said after Saturday's firing that the two ships remained under "close navy surveillance," but

Saddam offers 5-point initiative to end crisis

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iraq told some Western hostages Sunday they could leave but ordered thousands of others to assemble in Kuwait hotels ready to go to military bases and potential targets.

Some Austrians, Swedes, Swiss, Portuguese and Finns could leave in what Baghdad termed a "goodwill gesture" made along with an initiative by President Saddam Hussein.

Saddam offered to free thousands of Westerners held in Iraq and Kuwait in exchange for a written promise from U.S. President George Bush to get his forces out of the Gulf, not attack Iraq and lift an economic blockade on it.

The Iraqi leader said nothing about pulling out of Kuwait, took over on Aug. 2. This was an Arab issue, his message said.

U.S. troops must be out of the area as fast as they came in, he said, in an offer aimed particularly at Americans and read over Baghdad television.

Explaining why he would hold foreigners, including hundreds of children, as long as the Gulf crisis continued, Saddam said:

"Averting death and starvation resulting from American policy against

Iraq, by preventing some citizens from travelling, is a gain for humanity as a whole."

If war broke out, tens of thousands would die. "Many of our children and your children will be orphaned... many of our women and your women will become widows, many of our men and your men will die," he said.

Pursuing its plan to deploy European civilians at potential targets — denounced by America as a "human shield" strategy — Iraq told Europeans to report to three hotels in Kuwait city.

"Those who do not report to the hotels will be rounded up and taken direct to the sites," the British Foreign Office said, detailing instructions from Iraq to the British embassy there.

Britain, with 4,000 nationals in Kuwait, told its citizens to stay at home and "maintain a low profile" but added: "We advise any whom the Iraqi authorities attempt to detain or move forcibly not to offer any resistance."

Brussels also advised 21 trapped Belgians to stay at home and ignore the order.

The United States said it would not instruct some 2,500 Americans affected by the order to go to the hotels. It told Iraq not "to order them around either."

Nearly 9,000 Westerners are trapped in Kuwait and thousands more in Iraq.

London said it had reports Britons

were already being held at checkpoints in Kuwait city. Other foreigners had been moved to sites of strategic importance.

"In addition to British citizens, French, West Germans and Americans have been affected," the Foreign Office said.

A group of 35 Americans has also vanished from a hotel in the Iraqi capital.

Baghdad said late Saturday foreigners would share Iraqi people's suffering from the blockade. Foreign babies would face any shortages of milk or medicines along with Iraqi infants.

Soldiers and workers in support industries would get priority for scarce food, above thousands of foreign "guests."

The U.N. Security Council Saturday night told Iraq to let foreigners leave.

Egyptians, making up about 80 per cent of the two million foreigners, are excluded from the forcible deployment.

An estimated 100,000 refugees, mainly Egyptians, have fled across the border to Jordan. Thousands more, including many Kuwaitis, have crossed to Saudi Arabia.

The U.S. ambassador to the United Nations accused Iraq of holding thousands of foreigners "hostage," and the Security Council demanded that all be freed.

The council "demands that Iraq permit and facilitate the immediate

departure from Kuwait and Iraq of the nationals of third countries and grant immediate and continuing access of consular officials to such nationals," said a resolution approved by all 15 council members.

The council said it "further demands that Iraq take no action to jeopardise the safety, security or health of such nationals."

Earlier, upon entering the Security Council meeting, U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering said: "We are now responding to the three steps which Saddam Hussein has taken in the last 24 hours, including beginning a process of sequestering foreign nationals, the announcement that he was going to use them as military shields, and finally the statement this morning in which it was clear he was going to hold hostage all foreigners."

In its fourth resolution on the crisis, the council again declared that the "annexation of Kuwait is null and void, and therefore demands that the government of Iraq rescind its orders for the closure of diplomatic and consular missions in Kuwait and the withdrawal of the immunity of their personnel."

Previous resolutions denounced the invasion of Kuwait, ordered an embargo on all trade with Iraq and rejected Iraq's "annexation" of Kuwait.

Mohammed A. Sallam, the ambassador of Yemen, the only Arab state

(Continued on page 5)

Parliament says it supports government stand on Gulf

AMMAN (Petra) — The Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament Sunday expressed their appreciation and support for His Majesty King Hussein's pan-Arab stand and the government and pledged allegiance to the leadership of the King.

In a press statement issued after a joint meeting for the two Houses, Upper House Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, who chaired the meeting, said both Houses were briefed by Prime Minister Mudar Badran on the latest developments in the Gulf, both regionally and internationally. Badran also briefed both Houses on the efforts made by the King and his contacts with the Arab leaders who have adopted positions identical to that of Jordan, "which is based on rejecting all forms of foreign intervention or build-up of forces in the Gulf region," Lawzi said.

Lawzi said Badran briefed Parliament on the importance of the visit King Hussein made to the United States last week and his meeting with President George Bush noting in this

regard that Jordan had, from the very beginning of the Gulf crisis, sought to find an Arab solution to this international Arab affair. He noted that the current escalation of forces and the threat to use force does not serve regional security or peace, and said that "Had the Jordanian and other pan-Arab initiatives received full Arab cooperation and attention the crisis would not have exacerbated to this extent."

Lawzi said members of both Houses voiced support for measures and policies adopted by the government.

Lower House Speaker Suleiman Arar said that the deputies discussed issues pertaining to supply, foreign and internal policies.

In answer to a question about the United Nations Security Council resolution calling for sanctions against Iraq, Arar said: "We do not understand the resolution as a ban on food and drug but rather a ban on imports and exports."

He said that the House's understanding of the resolution was that it

was not meant to be a blockade because a "blockade in our view is a violation of international law and is considered an act of war and thus should not be implemented by any state against any other state unless there was an unambiguous decision to this effect."

Arar said the position of the Lower House on the Gulf crisis "is totally consistent with that of the government."

He stressed that the Iraqi people "are able to defend themselves." He denounced attacks against Iraq, and "the blockade being imposed on it to starve its children and prevent the supply of food and milk to them."

Arar pointed out that neither the Jordanian people nor the Parliament accept such a blockade and stressed that Jordan rejects the build-up of forces on the Arab Peninsula.

Arar noted that the United Nations had adopted so many decisions and that Arab peoples were evicted from their homeland, yet America did not move to implement these decisions.

World should respect Jordan's humanitarian role, not hinder it, foreign minister tells U.S.

Jordan, Sudan protest U.S. interception of passenger boat

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A Sudanese ferry streaming towards Aqaba to pick up Sudanese nationals evacuated from Kuwait was prevented from entering Jordanian waters Saturday by American warships and the Jordanian and Sudanese governments lodged formal protests with the U.S. government Sunday, officials and diplomats said.

The Jordanian protest was launched by Deputy Prime Minister Marwan Al Qasem, who summoned the U.S. ambassador, Roger Harrison, and "protested the American action," the Jordan News Agency, Pet-

ra, reported.

The ambassador conveyed to Qasem the American government's "regret" over the action of the U.S. warships which was a "mistake," Petra said. But there was no indication of the envoy giving Jordan any assurances that such actions would not be repeated.

The foreign minister also called on the international community to recognise and respect the humanitarian nature of services that Jordan renders to the people leaving Iraq and Kuwait, Petra said.

A similar protest was also lodged by the Sudanese government in Khartoum with the American ambassador there.

"Our Foreign Ministry called in the American ambassador in

Khartoum and told him that it was a Sudanese boat proceeding to a Jordanian port on a humanitarian mission, and it is not acceptable that American military vessels or anyone else blocking its voyage," said the Sudanese ambassador to Jordan, Mahjub Radwan.

The ambassador said the Dongola was on its way from Port Sudan to Aqaba late Saturday to ferry about 1,500 Sudanese who arrived. Five days earlier at the Red Sea port after fleeing Kuwait when the ship was ordered to stop by U.S. warships. There were also 500 cars with the Sudanese awaiting the vessel, "which has carrying no cargo whatsoever," the ambassador said. "In fact, it was unloading steel bars and building material at

(Continued on page 5)

Baghdad quickens pullout pace, Tehran says no war against Iraq

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iraq withdrew more troops and armour from Iran Sunday to help defend its southern border against possible attack by U.S.-led forces in Saudi Arabia.

The Iranian news agency said Iraq had been working around-the-clock to move troops and hardware from the border province of Ilam. It said the withdrawal was expected to be completed in three days.

The Iraqi withdrawal from occupied Iranian border areas has gathered pace since the Gulf war foes swapped further batches of prisoner-of-war (PoWs).

Tehran Radio said 1,000 more PoWs arrived in Iran Sunday, bringing the number of prisoners released by Iraq in the past three days to 3,000.

Iran said it had released another 1,000 Iraqis, taking the total freed in the past two days to 2,000.

Iraq will complete the troop withdrawal in three days, Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Sunday.

IRNA quoted an unidentified Iranian official as saying that Iraqi troops have been pulling out armoured units and military equipment around the clock since the withdrawal began Friday.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said last week that the pull-

out would take five days. Western military analysts have said they believed it would take longer.

But the Iranian agency quoted the official as saying that an estimated 2,000 square kilometres of Iranian territory occupied by the Iraqis in the closing stages of the eight-year war will be "liberated by Tuesday."

It was not known how many of the 30 Iraqi divisions, totalling as many as 300,000 men, will be moved to Kuwait.

The Red Cross has sent extra staff to Tehran after appeals from Iran and Iraq to speed up the PoW exchange, a spokesman said Sunday.

Both countries had called on the Swiss-based International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to process more than the 1,000 exchanges a day it had been supervising since last Friday.

The ICRC insists on conducting a private intervention with every prisoner to check that he wants to return home.

Spokesman Juerg Bischoff said 25 delegates were flying to Tehran to join 19 already in the region, but he declined to estimate how many more prisoners they would be able to handle.

Iranian officials Saturday asked the ICRC to handle the release of

5,000 Iranians and 8,000 Iraqis a day. Iraq also urged the ICRC to bring in more staff.

Bischoff said the ICRC had registered 17,000 Iranian prisoners of war and 50,000 Iraqis, but estimated there could be up to 15,000 more Iranian prisoners and 20,000 more Iraqis.

A newspaper close to the Iranian Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Tehran would never go to war against Baghdad to protect Western interests or to help Kuwait's deposed ruling family return to power.

The English-language Tehran Times said Iraq had demonstrated good will by settling the decade-long conflict with Iran. Tehran is "well prepared to reciprocate any Iraqi goodwill gesture," it said.

"This fact should be well digested by all: Iran will in no way pit itself in a war against Iraq in order for the Kuwaiti sheikhs to return, or for the sake of Western interests in this part of the world," the newspaper said.

But it said any suggestion that Iran would help Baghdad circumvent an international embargo on Iraqi food imports or exports of Iraqi oil was slanderous.

The United Nations-imposed embargo is meant to strangle the Iraqi economy and force Iraq to relinquish Kuwait.

Nakayama due today

AMMAN (Petra) — Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama arrives here Monday on a two-day visit to Jordan for talks with Jordanian officials on bilateral relations and means of enhancing scopes of cooperation.

Nakayama will discuss with senior Jordanian officials the current developments in the Middle East and the Arab Gulf in particular (see page 2).

Israel says soldier killed

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Armed Forces said Sunday two Jordanian conscripts were missing from their posts and the Israeli army said its soldiers had shot dead one Jordanian soldier and wounded and captured another.

A spokesman for the Armed Forces said in Amman that the two conscripts went missing from their position in the Karamah area in central Jordan Valley early Sunday.

In the 8:30 a.m. incident reported by the Israelis, a routine army patrol in the West Bank found footprints into an area about 25 kilometres north of Jericho.

An Israeli army statement said the Israeli patrol "identified two armed people in Jordanian army uniforms. The two were ordered to halt but did not, and opened fire at the Israeli troops."

"The soldiers returned fire and in the exchange of gunfire one of the Jordanian soldiers was killed and the other slightly wounded," the statement said.

(Continued on page 4)

Gulf crisis prompts de facto coalition of secular, Islamist groups Common ground found between backing for Iraq, opposition to foreign deployment

By Lami K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

IN THE clearest indication yet of an emerging rainbow coalition among the Islamic and secular political forces in the Arab World, Jordanian leftists, nationalists and the Muslim Brotherhood have agreed to form a "National Front" to confront the challenge posed to the Arabs by the Gulf crisis, including foreign troop presence in Saudi Arabia and Arabian Gulf waters.

According to political activists, the agreement was reached among the representatives of the various political groupings in the Lower House of Parliament — including the Islamic, leftist, pan-Arab nationalists, liberals as well as the traditionalists.

"There was an initial agreement to form a broad front to confront the American aggression," said Issa Madaani, the representative of the Jordanian Communist Party in the House. "The details have not

been worked out yet but close coordination among all groups have started."

Madaani told the Jordan Times yesterday that all of the trends have agreed to sponsor joint rallies and activities against the "American intervention in the Gulf."

Abdul Latif Arabayz, spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood and a deputy, confirmed that his movement was willing to coordinate and cooperate with all groups — regardless of their ideologies — to counter the threats "against Jordan and the Islamic Nation."

If the suggested "National Front" materialises, it will constitute the first coalition ever in the history of the country.

The initial agreement among the representatives of the rival groups reduces the extent to which the American decision to send troops to Saudi Arabia has unified all ideological trends in one trench, according to observers and analysts.

"The American decision to send troops to Saudi Arabia has pushed all of the red buttons," a political activist said. Daily rallies

and demonstrations across the Kingdom show the American position has affronted religious and pan-Arab nationalist feelings, and mobilised the left, which was in relative disarray following the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe, against the spectre "of a neo-colonialist domination of the region."

In general, all groups feel united in their resentment of foreign intervention and control of Arab and Islamic territories and of the natural resources of the Arab World, the observers said. Furthermore, there is a consensus on what is viewed here as "the hypocrisy of the West," as people from all trends compare the American reluctance to take any practical measures to effect an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories to its swift mobilisation of forces following the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait, according to the observers.

But the American action has also touched the different sensitivities of the various groups' ideals and values.

In the case of pan-Arab

nationalists, "the Iraqi move into Kuwait and the removal of the ruling Al Sabah family, has been seen as a first decisive step into undermining the control of pro-American regimes in the Arab World leading to the long-awaited Arab unity," noted an Arab nationalist activist.

The Jordanian popular reaction to the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait was revealing of the strength of pan-Arab nationalist feelings on the grass root levels, according to some analysts.

The other ideological groups, however, did not have the same reaction, although most did not express any sympathy with the Gulf rulers who were always viewed by leftists as subservient to West and "its tool in the area, Israel."

In fact many leftist activists who were contacted by the Jordan Times immediately following the Iraqi move expressed reservations about the Iraqi military intervention.

At the same time, leftists did not conceal their feeling that the move would undermine the American

influence in the region.

The Muslim Brotherhood, the biggest Islamist organisation in the country, initially objected to Baghdad's use of force. In its statements following the invasion, the Brotherhood also opposed the Iraqi-Kuwaiti merger and expressed full solidarity with the "Kuwaiti people."

The movement's position was expected partly due to its historic animosity to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and the Baathist party which he leads, and partly because it had good relations with the Gulf states, which reportedly backed the movement financially.

Initially therefore the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait widened the gap between the pan-Arab nationalists and the Islamists as the first group appeared to regain strength and emerge as a potential threat to the Islamic movement.

But the U.S. decision to send troops to Saudi Arabia dramatically altered the equation and reshuffled the alliances bringing together the rivals of yesterday.

(Continued on page 4)

APPEAL

MILK FOR THE CHILDREN OF IRAQ

An appeal directed to the human conscience all over the world, starting from Jordan.
From the children of Jordan to fathers and mothers wherever they are.

The children of Jordan from the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) who are aware there is still a responsive human conscience appeal to all citizens in Jordan, to the local, Arab, regional and international organisations and institutions and the world child organisations and to leaders of the world's countries to end injustice against the children of Iraq who are threatened with being deprived of bread and milk.

The children of Jordan demand all to implement the principles of the international declaration on children's rights which provides for protecting and taking care of children under all circumstances, in all times and in the days of war and peace alike. The principles of the international declaration on the children's rights by which all the world abide by linking between these rights and the child's basic needs. The declaration's provisions under articles No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10 guarantee the protection and welfare of children as well as social, food, and educational security and their right to grow up in healthy conditions in the times of war, peace and disasters.

The children of Jordan appeal for providing milk and food supplies for the children of Iraq.

This appeal comes on the eve of convening the world summit for children in which many leaders of the world's countries will take part to protect childhood.

As we head our call from the General Union of Voluntary Services in Jordan we appeal to fathers and mothers to respond favourably to this call. Let us share our food together.

Cash and in-kind donations are received at the following centres:
The General Union of Voluntary Societies - Jabal Luwelbdeh, Tel. 634001, 634009, 630398.
GUVS - Amman Governorate Tel. 639555
GUVS - Irbid Governorate (02)242518
GUVS - Zarqa Governorate (09)981712
GUVS - Balqa Governorate (05)555285
GUVS - Karak Governorate (03)351169
GUVS - Ma'an Governorate (03)324777
GUVS - Tafilah Governorate (03)342365
GUVS - Mafraq Governorate (04)432799

Tokyo seeks Arab views on how it can help end crisis

JEDDAH (AP) — Japan is soliciting views of Arab Gulf leaders on what it could do to help in the Gulf crisis, officials accompanying Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said Sunday.

The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the options Japan was considering included provision of financial assistance through the United Nations to the multi-national forces in Saudi Arabia, and sending medical teams to the region.

According to the Japanese constitution of 1946, Japan cannot participate in military operations outside the country nor extend financial aid save through international organizations.

"Nakayama discussed these options with his Saudi counterpart Prince Saud Al Faisal and elicited his opinion on what role Japan could play in the current crisis," said one of the officials.

Nakayama, who arrived Saturday has conferred with King Fahd as well as Saudi foreign minister Prince Saud Al Faisal. He delivered a message from Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to King Fahd.

Nakayama later was quoted as saying views were identical on the Iraqi take-over of Kuwait.

He called for an immediate and unconditional Iraqi pullout from Kuwait.

The foreign minister also explained to the Saudi leaders why Kaifu had to postpone a sche-

duled Middle East tour that was to start Aug. 18 and take him to Saudi Arabia, Oman, Jordan, Egypt and Turkey. He hoped that the prime minister would be able to visit the region in October.

Nakayama was to leave the Saudi summer capital of Jeddah later Sunday to visit the same countries Kaifu was to visit, and to deliver messages to their leaders.

A report said Sunday that the United States is pressuring Japan to break a decades-old policy of not dispatching its military overseas by becoming directly involved in the Middle East crisis.

U.S. officials have asked Japan to "contribute directly" to international efforts to settle the Gulf crisis by sending units such as ending mine sweepers and transport planes, the Yomiuri Shimbun, Japan's largest newspaper, reported.

A Foreign Ministry official described the report as generally correct, but refused to confirm specific requests by the United States.

Japanese law bans virtually all overseas military activities, in large part because of memories of the nation's military actions during World War II.

The Yomiuri, quoting unidentified U.S. government sources in Washington, said U.S. officials also asked Japan to help fund U.S. and multinational forces defending Saudi Arabia.

Lebanese ex-prisoner says 'Kuwait 15' fled jail

YATER, Lebanon (AP) — A Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim who claims he escaped from prison in Kuwait during the Iraqi takeover said Saturday that 15 convicted linked to kidnappers in Lebanon also fled from jail.

Abdul Aziz Krayyem said he was jailed in 1985 on charges of cooperating with the 15 men, mostly Iranian and Iraqi Shi'ites, convicted in the 1983 bombing of the U.S. and French embassies, as well as Kuwait installations.

Islamic Jihad, holding Americans Terry Anderson and Thomas Sutherland for over five years, has demanded the release of the 15 in return for freeing the two.

Krayyem said he was among 1,600 prisoners who overpowered their guards and escaped when they heard about the takeover.

The 15 were among those who got out at that point, he said. "I saw them climbing into taxicabs with Kuwaiti plate numbers," Krayyem said, and the cars sped away. "That's all I saw."

The 15 have also been removed taken to Baghdad or executed.

Krayyem said he had no idea about their whereabouts after their escape.

He said he took shelter for 10 days with Kuwaiti inmates who got their families to collect them after the jailbreak. The Lebanese embassy issued a new passport for him and he joined a car convoy sponsored by the embassy that passed through Saudi Arabia, then Jordan, Syria and Lebanon, he said.

Krayyem, 35, married with three children, arrived Friday in his hometown of Yater, 92 kilometres south of Beirut.

He said he was first jailed for a few days with the then 17 convicts before he was moved to isolation at Kuwait's central prison.

Two of the 17 were released in February 1989 after serving five-year sentences. The Kuwaitis refused to free any of the others before completion of sentences, most ranging to 15 years. The emir had not signed several death sentences, effectively commuting them to life.

Kuwaiti interrogators linked Krayyem to the 15 for having explosives in his house but he said he was framed.

"Believe me I had nothing to do with them," he said.

Baghdad radio begins broadcasts at U.S. troops

NICOSIA (AP) — The voice of the Baghdad radio announcer boomed onto the airwaves in fractured English, addressing U.S. soldiers: "Do you want to go back home from the Arabian desert ... psychologically broken?"

Iraq's new English-language programme, broadcast on short-wave radio, stepped up the anti-American rhetoric its Arabic media services have waged for weeks.

Taking a cue from broadcasters such as Tokyo Rose and Axis Sally during World War II and Hanoi Hannah in the Vietnam war, the programmes featured an electric mix of news, music and mockery meant to demoralize soldiers rushed in to Saudi Arabia since the Aug. 2 Iraqi take-over of Kuwait.

During the hour-long programme, the broadcaster asked, "remember what the petrol emirs are doing to American girls. Do you want to defend them?"

In addition to alleging immoral Gulf emirs had "enjoyed" the company of U.S. women, the

Bangladeshis protest against sending troops to Gulf

DHAKA (AP) — About 150 Bangladeshis, fearing for the safety of relatives trapped in Kuwait and Iraq, Sunday urged their government not to send troops to Saudi Arabia.

At the same time, about 200 demonstrators gathered near the Iraqi embassy and denounced President Saddam Hussein for his troops' continued occupation of Kuwait.

About 110,000 Bangladeshis work in Iraq and Kuwait. Most are low-paid manual labourers. Bangladesh's president, Hussain Mohammad Ershad, has agreed to contribute soldiers to the multinational force being assembled in Saudi Arabia to help "defend" the kingdom.

"This decision has jeopardised the safety of our relations in Iraq," said Shaikhullah, a 23-year-old university student. Like many Bangladeshis, he uses only one name.

About 400 Bangladeshis working in Kuwait were taken to Baghdad by the Iraqi force and denied contact with their embassy, according to Bangladeshi officials. Shaikhullah said his father, who worked at a Kuwaiti military base, was among them.

"Don't send troops to Saudi Arabia," the demonstrators chanted outside the Foreign Ministry. "President Ershad, answer why our relations are hostage today," they demanded.

The demonstrators held a sit-in in front of the ministry, blocking traffic on a heavily travelled boulevard at the peak of travel

Sunday, which is a working day. They dispersed peacefully after police arrived.

In another part of Dhaka, riot police prevented about 200 people from approaching the Iraqi embassy.

The demonstrators, whose protest was organised by the right-wing Muslim League, shouted: "Saddam, get out of Kuwait" and "Down with Saddam."

Bangladeshis working in Iraq and Kuwait repatriate about \$90 million a year through regular banking channels and an estimated \$65 million through clandestine money dealers who give better exchange rates, according to a banker who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Pakistani role

Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub left Sunday for the Middle East and the Gulf to discuss the size and nature of Pakistani troops to be sent to Saudi Arabia.

Yaqub Khan's first stop on the four-state, five-day tour was Tehran, where he was to discuss Pakistan's decision to send troops to Saudi Arabia. He also is to visit Jordan, Abu Dhabi and Saudi Arabia.

"The number as well as the date of departure of Pakistani troops have yet to be settled," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said at a briefing.

"Specifically, we will want to know whether Saudi Arabia wants us to send elements of

infantry or armour, and we will like to know other details regarding the nature of troops," said the spokesman who cannot be identified under briefing rules.

Saudi Arabia has helped Pakistan purchase defence equipment over the past 10 years for its own use as well as to help guerrillas fighting the Soviet-backed government in neighbouring Afghanistan.

Nearly two Pakistani army divisions — about 40,000 soldiers — were posted in Saudi Arabia following the 1979 bid by militants to take over the Holy Mosque at Mecca.

The spokesman also said that Rashid Al Amiri, special envoy of the ousted emir of Kuwait, met on Saturday with President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi.

Amiri expressed his country's gratitude for condemning the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait. Ishaq Khan and Jatoi told the envoy that Pakistan has agreed to send its troops to Saudi Arabia in a defensive role.

The spokesman said there are nearly 90,000 Pakistanis working in Kuwait and that special airforce are being arranged to bring them home. He said the Iraqis have detained 600 Pakistanis and 14 officers belonging to the army and air force and civil aviation workers in Kuwait.

He also confirmed that 21 Pakistanis who were arrested by Iraqis on Aug. 1-2 have not been released despite several demands by Pakistan.

Gulf likely to overshadow nuclear treaty review

GENEVA (R) — The Gulf crisis will hang heavily over delegates meeting in Geneva this week for the first post-cold war review of a 1970 treaty banning the spread of nuclear weapons.

Iraq, which has signed the treaty, has denied repeated Israeli accusations that it is trying to develop nuclear weapons, while Israel itself is widely believed to have them.

A total of 141 countries, including Kuwait which Iraq seized Aug. 2, have signed the 1970 nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

The treaty's implementation is reviewed every five years and about 100 countries will attend the four-week conference opening on Monday at the European

headquarters of the United Nations.

The Gulf crisis is not officially on the agenda in Geneva, but a conference secretary, U.N. official Derek Boothby, said the meeting "cannot take place in a political vacuum."

Boothby, however, told reporters he hoped the crisis would not overshadow the conference. "Iraq is a state party, so is Kuwait and so are a number of countries involved in the crisis but I hope the conflict will be considered separately."

Conference chairman Oswaldo de Rivero of Peru told Reuters that Middle East tensions made it more crucial than ever to strengthen the treaty and prevent more countries getting nuclear

weapons.

De Rivero noted that the superpowers were making significant progress towards arms reduction agreements and the climate for international détente had improved markedly following sweeping political reforms in eastern Europe.

Since the treaty was last reviewed in 1985, the United States and the Soviet Union have signed an agreement banning intermediate-range nuclear missiles and are close to agreeing on halving their long-range nuclear arsenals.

The NPT treaty, which was signed in 1968 and took effect two years later, commits signatories to seeking arms cuts and sharing nuclear power technology

Thousands of foreigners flee crisis, millions remain

NICOSIA (R) — About 100,000 foreigners have fled Iraq and Kuwait for Jordan since the Gulf crisis erupted 16 days ago but more than two million foreigners remain, many of them Westerners now barred by Baghdad from leaving.

Latest estimates:

	Kuwait	Iraq
Egypt	150,000	1.6 million
Palestinians	300,000	170,000
India	172,000	up to 10,000
Pakistan	90,000	up to 10,000
Sri Lanka	100,000	unknown
Bangladesh	70,000	15,000
Philippines	45,000	5,000
Morocco	6,000	30,000
Yugoslavia	300	10,000
Soviet Union	648	7,830
Thailand	7,000	unknown
China	several thousand	unknown
Turkey	2,500	up to 4,000
Tunisia	1,565	2,000
Poland	116	3,000
South Korea	648	732
Japan	278	230
Czechoslovakia	123	up to 358
Brazil	unknown	450
Malaysia	298	17
Taiwan	141	unknown
Hong Kong	20 total in Kuwait and Iraq	

Western nationals

Britain	4,000	more than 700
The U.S.	2,500	600
West Germany	unknown	558
France	290	270
Italy	152	up to 330
Ireland	50	300
Greece	200	47
Netherlands	83	150
Spain	106	122
Switzerland	53	69
Sweden	100	40
Australia	90	70
Austria	70	70
New Zealand	11	24
Denmark	83	17
Belgium	21	38
Finland	23	23
Cyprus	30	10
Luxembourg	3	1

Baghdad radio begins broadcasts at U.S. troops

NICOSIA (AP) — The voice of the Baghdad radio announcer boomed onto the airwaves in fractured English, addressing U.S. soldiers: "Do you want to go back home from the Arabian desert ... psychologically broken?"

Iraq's new English-language programme, broadcast on short-wave radio, stepped up the anti-American rhetoric its Arabic media services have waged for weeks.

Taking a cue from broadcasters such as Tokyo Rose and Axis Sally during World War II and Hanoi Hannah in the Vietnam war, the programmes featured an electric mix of news, music and mockery meant to demoralize soldiers rushed in to Saudi Arabia since the Aug. 2 Iraqi take-over of Kuwait.

During the hour-long programme, the broadcaster asked, "remember what the petrol emirs are doing to American girls. Do you want to defend them?"

In addition to alleging immoral Gulf emirs had "enjoyed" the company of U.S. women, the

broadcast mentioned faraway loved ones, desert heat, quicksand, rising taxes in the United States, war injuries and U.S. soldiers missing in action in Vietnam.

The brief messages were interspersed with music.

About 30 seconds of big band swing tunes that Tokyo Rose herself might have used was followed by:

"To the American soldier in the Saudi Arabia desert: Would you like to be one of the cripples who are only lamented in the charity ceremonies? Do you want to go back home from the Arabian Desert and you are psychologically broken?"

Then would come some taped middle-of-the-road music that seemed more appropriate in elevators or a few bars from one of Lebanon's Westernised composers.

There were also "special reports." One listed pro-Iraqi demonstrations "disrupting world capitals," another was a tirade against Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates for trying to des-

ert the Iraqi economy this year by overproducing oil and driving down prices.

A third analysed the objective of the United States in sending up to 250,000 troops to Saudi Arabia, claiming the main purpose was occupation. The Bush administration has said the troops were there for defensive purposes.

Talk radio it wasn't. The format was heavy with long sentences and standard phrases that are the hallmarks of anti-American rhetoric.

Lines such as "imposing American Zionist schemes on the Arab Nation" were unlikely to win the hearts and minds of many U.S. enlisted men.

It could not be immediately confirmed that the programmes were monitored by the troops in Saudi Arabia.

And the harsh conditions were also stressed. "Why do you come to the burning desert?" the broadcaster asked. Another time he said, "Didn't you hear the sand dunes in the Saudi Arabian

desert are moving and they swallowed many people and they will swallow you?"

It added, "also guys, the Islamic Organisation in Colorado has condemned the invasion."

Mentioning home states was a favourite of similar broadcasts during World War II and the Korean war.

Back then, many of the U.S. troops did not get broadcast news from home for days.

Sexy female voices and the playing of American top 20 records were meant to get the troops grumbling about the war and missing home.

Germany used Axis Sally to say things like "Hello gang, throw down those little old guns and toddle off home. There's no getting the Germans down."

Lord Haw-Haw, a British-American citizen, was another broadcaster who made similar statements beamed towards London. He was executed for treason while Japan's Tokyo Rose and Axis Sally received prison terms of 10 to 12 years.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Iraq seizing assets of Sabah regime

NICOSIA (R) — Iraq said Sunday it was seizing the assets in Kuwait of the ousted rulers, the Al Sabah family and former cabinet ministers. The Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported a decision by Baghdad's revolution command council confiscating all cash and assets belonging to the former rulers. "The revolution command council decided to confiscate money, movable and fixed assets, belonging to persons from the Al Sabah family and their former ministers in the extinct Kuwaiti government," it said. Most of the Al Sabah family and the cabinet fled to Saudi Arabia as Iraqi tanks rolled into Kuwait. The bulk of their assets are kept abroad and have been frozen by foreign governments to prevent Iraq from seizing them. The Iraqi decision appeared to cover the Al Sabah's palaces in Kuwait.

Greece said to try Palestinian

ATHENS (R) — A Palestinian wanted by Washington for the 1982 bombing of a Pan American airliner will not be extradited to the United States but will be tried in Greece instead, an Athens newspaper said Sunday. "The government has decided not to extradite Palestinian Mohammad Rashid to the United States. He will instead be tried in Greece," the usually well-informed conservative Kathimerini newspaper said. Washington wants Rashid to stand trial for a 1982 blast aboard a Hawaii-bound Pan Am plane which killed a Japanese and wounded 15 other passengers. Rashid, 34, was arrested at Athens airport in 1988 following a tip-off by U.S. authorities and served jail terms for using a false Syrian passport and hiding weapons in his cell. He is now held pending a government decision on his extradition.

E. Germany denies aiding Iraqi chemical arms

EAST BERLIN (R) — Disarmament and Defence Minister Rainer Eppelmann Sunday denied a magazine report that East Germany's former Communist leaders helped Iraq build up its chemical warfare capability during the 1980s. "East Germany said its national people's army did not support Iraq in its preparations for chemical warfare. Nor did it deliver any chemical weapons," Eppelmann told reporters. The West German news magazine Der Spiegel said in its latest issue that East Germany's former Communist rulers had supplied Iraq with desert testing facilities and mobile laboratories. Quoting the head of the chemical service in the defence ministry, it also alleged East Germany delivered mobile toxic laboratories and gas from two West German firms to the Iraqis. Eppelmann acknowledged East Germany had built a desert site in Iraq, but said it was for training soldiers how to protect themselves against a chemical attack, not how to use the weapons themselves.

Israeli homeless march in Tel Aviv

TEL AVIV (R) — Some 3,000 Israelis, saying an influx of Soviet Jewish immigrants has priced them out of the property market, marched in central Tel Aviv Saturday demanding immediate government action. Police diverted traffic and stood by in case of unrest but the protest passed peacefully. "It's time the national priorities changed... the social issue should be at the heart of the national agenda," Ofer Bolstein, one of the protest organisers, told Israel Television. Bolstein said there were now 10,000 homeless Israelis living in tent camps throughout the country and facing a grim winter unless a speedy solution was found. Housing activists say increased demand fuelled by the arrival of some 70,000 immigrants since the start of the year has driven rents up and native Israelis cannot compete with the Soviet newcomers, who receive state subsidies. Israel radio quoted immigration officials as saying that August immigration figures were expected to break July's record 15,000 arrivals. Officials predict at least 150,000 immigrants by the end of 1990.

Egypt offers refugees meals and wheels

CAIRO (R) — Thousands of Egyptians who fled the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, many penniless, will find something at a Sinai port to ease their suffering — a free meal. The Ministry of Transport is already providing free rides to the penniless to towns all over the country. Before the Aug. 2 invasion, there were up to 1.6 million Egyptians in Iraq and 150,000 in Kuwait. The Middle East News Agency said Sunday the Ministry of Supply had decided to provide 15,000 light meals every day at the Red Sea port of Nuweiba. Thousands have been arriving at the port after a long desert trek through Iraq and Jordan. Many complained they had no money or had their belongings illegally seized by Iraqi soldiers.

King Hassan pardons 546 prisoners

RABAT (R) — King Hassan of Morocco has granted pardons to 46 prisoners to mark the 37th anniversary of the departure into exile of his father King Mohammed V. The justice ministry said Sunday that 372 prisoners would be released immediately and the others were being granted remission. None were identified. Traditionally royal pardons on national days are granted to common criminals and do not apply to political prisoners. Moroccan human rights groups, political parties and trades union federations have intensified demands this year for the release of political prisoners, estimated to number between 250 and 360. They include Marxists and Muslim fundamentalists convicted of plotting to overthrow the monarchy. King Mohammed returned to Morocco after two years in exile.

Sheikh Saad wants Iraqi pullout

TUNIS (R) — Any Arab settlement of the Gulf crisis must be based on the unconditional withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait, the ousted Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah said in Tunis Sunday. He told a news conference Kuwait favoured an Arab initiative to resolve the crisis "on condition that it aims at the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait, and the restoration of the legitimate authority, without any interference in Kuwait's internal affairs." Sheikh Saad left shortly after the news conference for neighbouring Libya.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE
15:30 Koran
15:45 Programme review
15:45 Children programmes
16:00 News summary
16:10 Local programme
16:30 Programme review
16:40 News in Arabic
16:50 Arabic series
17:00 Programme review
17:10 Local programmes
17:30 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO
18:10 Documentary
18:10 News in French
19:15 Weekly Sport magazine
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:30 Perfect Strangers
21:10 Murder She Wrote
22:00 News in English
22:20 Mystery Movie: "Murder, Smoke and Shadows"

PRAYER TIMES

04:35 Fair
05:35 (Sunrise) Daba
12:30 Dabir
16:10 As
19:20 Magrib
20:45 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifich Tel. 810740
Annunciation of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrence Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 625543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel. 685326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811255
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654932

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
Normal summer weather will prevail and winds will be northerly to moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly to moderate and seas calm.
Amman 20 / 32

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Aqaba 25 / 38
Deserts 20 / 36
Jordan Valley 24 / 37

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 32, Aqaba 38. Humidity readings: Amman 42 per cent, Aqaba 18 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS
NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Mohammad Al Awad 741391
Dr. Yusef Al Faqih 657809
First pharmacy 661912
Perdons pharmacy 778356
Al Aqema pharmacy 637025
Nairosh pharmacy 623672
Al Salem pharmacy 636730
Yacoubi pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

IRBID:
Dr. Adel Hataleh (—)
Al Shamsa pharmacy 985238

ZARQA:
Dr. Rafeh Attallah (—)

Khalifah pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Police Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Amman Municipality
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone
Reprints 623101
Abdull Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power

Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-33200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-33200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/22
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn 642816
Akil Maternity, J. Amn 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Mafnis, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664714
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
Al-Munster Hospital 6672219
The Islamic, Al-Jalal 6612137
Al-Ahli, Al-Jalal 6641646
Islamic, Al-Muhajreen 77

GUVS appeals for donations for Iraqi children

AMMAN (J.T.) — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) Sunday issued an appeal to all world and regional organisations and charitable institutions to offer donations to the children of Iraq and ensure their survival.

"GUVS has issued the call through the media in Jordan and will send cables containing the appeals to all nations and world organisations," said GUVS executive President Abdullah Al Khatib.

He told a press conference here that following the start of the campaign Saturday, GUVS has started receiving canned food and powdered milk from Jordanian benefactors.

The appeal, which appeared in all Jordanian dailies as an advertisement, has been issued in the name of Jordanian children to the conscience of the world.

The appeal, according to Dr. Khatib, went out as a humanitarian endeavour to collect food for the children of Iraq, in a bid to ensure their survival under the present difficult circumstances and in harmony with the principles and objectives of the universal declaration of the rights of the child.

"This appeal does not emanate from any government, it serves as an initiative by GUVS, based on pure humanitarian considerations," said Khatib in his statement.

He said that GUVS would pursue the campaign to ensure as many quantities of food supplies as possible for the Iraqi children.

Fund to finance income-generating projects

AMMAN (Petra) — The government has set up a special fund for development and employment to benefit groups and individuals alike by providing loans to finance their income-generating projects. Minister of Planning Khaled Amin Abdullah said Sunday.

He said that the fund, which has been established in cooperation with the Industrial Development Bank (IDB), will serve as a specialised bank offering funds for production projects.

"Groups and individuals living in urban and rural areas can obtain soft loans from the special fund, provided that the loans are to finance income-generating projects on a small and medium size scales," the minister said.

He said that the fund aims at helping create new jobs to absorb job-seekers and to increase production and raise the standard of living of limited-income groups.

"The fund will have a special credit account number for each beneficiary and the loans will be issued under the supervision of a special committee," Amin said.

He said that the fund's sources are the Jordanian treasury, public organisations, contributions, donations from local sources and the interests on the loans to the beneficiaries.

The fund, the minister added, offers grants to societies to buy equipment for a collective plan involving several beneficiaries and gives soft loans to pay for recurrent and overhead expense.

According to Amin, the supervisory committee groups representatives from IDB and the ministries of labour, social development, finance and the Vocational Training Corporation.

Hopes raised of solutions to Ghor Al Safi problems

By Ali Masarweh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Infrastructural problems such as the lack of educational and medical facilities, and hurdles facing the agricultural and transportation sectors are some of the day-to-day obstacles encountered by the population of Ghor Al Safi, residents Sunday told Her Majesty Queen Noor, who promised efforts to address these problems.

The promise by the Queen came during a visit she paid to the villages of Al Mazar'a, Al Sa'afi and Faifeh accompanied by Minister of Health Mohammad Al Zaben, Minister of Water and Irrigation Daoud Khalaf, Ghor Al Safi Deputy Mahmoud Al Huwaimel, Noor Al Hussein Foundation Director-General In'am Al Mufri and other officials.

Representatives of the three villages briefed the Queen and the accompanying delegation on the most urgent needs of the people.

Development plans for the region, which include the adoption of agricultural projects and the improvement of the health situation are to be implemented by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation and the Ministry of Health, according to officials.

Other development plans covering the areas of unemployment, education, water, social development and agri-

culture are to be carried out by the Jordan Valley Authority and other concerned authorities.

During the Queen's tour, which included visits to several houses at random, villagers talked frankly about the problems and their impact on the regions' population.

"The medical situation is gradually improving. The hospital (in Al Sa'afi) is being provided with the necessary equipment, but we are still in desperate need of medicine and live-in doctors," Mahmoud Ma'touk, an Al Mazar'a resident, told the Jordan Times.

"Health awareness programmes are virtually non-existent in this region, which is underdeveloped and (the residents are) retaining negative habits," said Mansoura Hshoush, a teacher in Al Sa'afi, said.

According to the plans of the Ministry of Health, a live-in doctor is to be assigned to the Al Sa'afi hospital, and health centres are to be upgraded in the district.

Another pressing problem for the residents of Al Sa'afi is insufficient educational facilities and "unqualified" teachers, according to residents. Classrooms are poorly ventilated and swarms of flies flourishing in the unhygienic environment make it all but impossible for students to con-

centrate on their studies. Good teachers are also hard to find in the district as most teachers prefer to work in cities where living conditions are better, residents complained.

"For teachers, being assigned to Al Sa'afi is like being sent into exile," a shopowner said. "Teachers who are left to choose between working in Amman or in Al Sa'afi for the same pay are bound to choose Amman," he maintained.

Failure rates of more than 90 per cent of Ghor Al Safi students in the Tawjili examinations illustrates the poor educational level in the district, residents said.

These and other problems, including disputes over land distribution in the Jordan Valley between farmers and the Jordan Valley Authority, are being studied by the responsible authorities who promised to come up with solutions as soon as possible.

A possible solution of the unemployment problem could be training programmes set up by the Arab Potash Company, which is also offering financial help to local industries.

The visit by Queen Noor is part of a comprehensive plan to reach inhabitants of distant areas in an attempt to hasten the process of upgrading their living conditions by providing proper answers to their needs and problems.

Jordan asks Iraq to slow flood of refugees

RUWEISHED, Jordan (R) — Overwhelmed by a torrent of Arab and Asian workers fleeing Iraq and Kuwait, Jordan has asked Baghdad to slow the flow, Jordanian border officials said Sunday.

With growing pressures on the frontier, Jordan and Iraq have set up a liaison committee to supervise traffic. A Jordanian official has been sent to the Iraqi side.

"People are having to wait too long here for registration and transport, so we asked the Iraqis to let fewer people across," one of the officials at Ruweished told Reuters.

Egyptians waiting hopelessly in the sun for transport from the border cursed their government and President Hosni Mubarak.

"We drove in trucks like animals for three days from Kuwait. We are waiting here for three days. We are treated like dogs and Mubarak doesn't care," said Abdul Salam Hosni, a technician.

Waiting to drive the other way, into Iraq, one Jordanian truck driver said Amman could not U.N. sanctions secretly even if it said it was obeying them.

"You want to tell the world we are sending food and milk to Baghdad so that this will be stopped and Iraqis will starve?" he asked. "You should write that Jordan is not sending anything."

At least 100 trucks were waiting Sunday to cross into Iraq. Drivers said they were carrying wheat, corn, flour, rice, sugar, frozen meat, dried milk, medicine, wood, cotton and prefabricated houses.

Coming out, thousands of people, officials said 6,000 refugees, mostly Egyptian labourers, had crossed the scorching frontier post by midday.

About 200 Asians, 300 Bulgarian evacuees from Kuwait, a German and a Frenchwoman were among the heat-dazed

groups arriving at the congested border in buses, trucks and cars. A French diplomat named the Frenchwoman as Marguerite Bertaieb, who was travelling with her Tunisian husband.

Iraq ordered an estimated 9,000 Westerners in Kuwait to assemble in three hotels Sunday. A day earlier it said it was moving foreigners of "aggressive nations" held in Iraq and Kuwait to military and civilian installations until the danger of war had passed. Egyptians were excluded from the order.

A Jordanian official at Ruweished said 20,000 Egyptians had already been waiting three days at Aqaba for a ferry passage to Sinai.

Cairo had sent another 47 buses to join 113 already playing the Ruweished-Aqaba route, an Egyptian diplomat said. The embassy sent 8,000 meals to Ruweished Sunday, he said.

Trade organisations urge moderation

AMMAN (J.T.) — Amman Chamber of Industry and the General Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions (GFJTU) Sunday urged all citizens to cut their spending, ration consumption and not store food items, to avoid any imbalances in supply and demand for commodities.

In a joint appeal the two bodies called on the industrial sector to upgrade the production levels with a view to reducing costs and ensuring regular and smooth distribution throughout the King-

dom. The appeal requested the industrial sector to collect minimum profits to help ease the burden on the people's shoulders.

The appeal requested the forces of production to cooperate with their employers in maintaining efficient production; it also urged not to waste material used in industries and to utilise the time in the best possible manner.

It also called on the forces of production to cooperate with the authorities concerned in using available resources and to reallocate the resources to meet the basic needs of the country and citizens.

Both the chamber and the federation requested all Jordanian citizens to extend every possible help and to provide the necessary facilities to the Arab brothers, who are either residing amongst us, or passing through our country, as well as any foreign visitors, particularly those who have been affected by the disruption of their work or who have lost their jobs.

Ministry of Education prepares to accommodate influx of children

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Education has taken steps to help the children of expatriate Jordanians to be admitted to schools in Jordan in view of the current situation in the Gulf region and due to difficulties for these children to return to their own schools in the Gulf at present.

The Department of Education in the Greater Amman region Sunday issued instructions to all schools in the region to admit expatriate children at government schools and said parents should supply documents and certificates for the registration of their children.

According to the instructions, government schools, which will reopen for the 1990-91 scholastic year next Saturday, will accept the expatriate children, especially of people coming from Kuwait and the Gulf countries.

The statement said that strenuous efforts were underway to provide additional numbers of

Public urged to conserve energy

By Ella Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The government is taking steps to reduce energy consumption by cutting down on electricity use, and has appealed to the public to rationalise all forms of energy consumption at home and places of work.

According to a communiqué issued by Prime Minister Mudar Badran all government and public organisation offices will not be lit during day office hours and no air conditioning will be allowed from now on either.

The communiqué said that lighting of streets and public squares will be cut by half, and other necessary measures could be taken soon in the course of saving energy.

The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources issued a call to the public to reduce energy consumption and do its best to prevent wasting of energy resources.

"The public is called on to refrain from operating fans and other electric appliances at home except when it is absolutely

necessary," a ministry statement said.

Saving of energy at this crucial time, the statement said, is bound to serve the national economy and will be in line with His Majesty King Hussein's directives to the government to reduce consumption, especially of energy and water resources.

King Hussein, in a message to the Jordanian people on Aug. 12, appealed for a change of consumption habits and rationing of water and energy.

The ministry of energy's statement said that a series of steps would be taken to reduce electric power consumption, which means cutting down on crude oil which Jordan imports from Iraq and Kuwait. It said that the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) and other concerned departments and organisations would coordinate policies to see that the King's directives are implemented.

Jordan consumes three million tonnes of energy annually, of which 800,000 tonnes are used to generate electric power, according to JEA Director-General

Mohammad Saeed Arafah. Arafah told the Jordan Times that the government's decision to reduce electric power consumption would have no effect on the national economy but would save the country up to 40 tonnes of crude oil a day (or 200 barrels a day), worth at least JD 2,000.

"Everything will be done to reduce consumption of energy, particularly fuel used in producing electricity which now runs at the rate of 2,200 tonnes a day, accounting for nearly one third of the country's total oil consumption," Arafah said.

He said that the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, the JEA and all offices affiliated to them have already taken steps to implement the government decision.

To reduce dependence on oil for power generation purposes, the ministry of energy last month announced arrangements to transfer two power turbines from a point south of Amman to Al Rishah gas field near the Iraqi border in a bid to increase electric generation by employing natural

gas produced there. According to Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Thabet Al Taher, power generated by the gas-powered station will cover nearly 25 per cent of the total amount of power needed for the Kingdom, up from 15 per cent at present.

At present Al Rishah gas fields produce some 22 million cubic feet of natural gas on a daily basis, part of which is being used to produce electricity, and the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) estimates the total gas reserves at Al Rishah at 260 billion cubic feet.

In addition, energy and electricity information and advisory centres in Jordan will continue to provide services to the public, and offer advice on the best means of saving energy, according to JEA sources.

They said that engineers and specialists from JEA and NRA are stationed at these offices to offer advice to the public free of charge as part of the national effort to save energy at home, in public buildings, factories, companies and various other places.

Massive flow of Indians expected from Iraq, Kuwait

By Nur Sati
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A massive flow of Indians, who make the third largest expatriate community in Iraq and Kuwait after Egyptians and Jordanians, is expected here in the next few days, and the Indian diplomatic mission is gearing to handle as much as 1,000 Indians crossing over from Iraq to fly home from Amman every day.

The flow of Indians through Jordan has been relatively slow over the past days, with Egyptians, the largest community in Iraq and Kuwait with a total of 1.6 million, registering the highest number.

According to an Indian embassy spokesman, the primary concern of the mission was to ensure the evacuation of some 2,000 pilgrims, including dozens of old men and women, who were visiting Shi'ite holy shrines in Karbala and Nejj in Iraq when Baghdad took over Kuwait on Aug. 2.

"We have managed to arrange travel for 1,000 of them, but there are still some pilgrims left," the spokesman said citing lack of communications as one of the problems to arrange speedier evacuation.

The Indian Embassy in Jordan is struggling to evacuate as many of its citizens as soon as possible. At the same time too many people coming into the

Kingdom brings confusion in terms of looking for accommodation, food, and booking tickets for the Indians to fly back to their homeland. A plane only carries some 370 people and we cannot even manage to bring them to fly everyday to Bombay," an embassy official said.

This past week there have been only three special Air India flights. "It is very difficult to bring any more because we have to pull them out from their normal routes," the official stated.

Earlier in the week however, the Indian minister for civil aviation was in Jordan discussing ways of finding more efficient means of travel for his people.

The Indian residents of Kuwait are the people that bring anxiety to the embassies of Iraq and Jordan, according to the official. He explained, since ways of communication are virtually frozen save for one telephone line in Baghdad, "there is no way of knowing the exact amount of people left in Kuwait and we cannot get in touch with them to arrange for their trips."

An Indian who had made his own way to Jordan from Kuwait said that "when we come to Jordan on our own, the embassy ensures us accommodation. The problem is that we have no money and cannot

take any from the banks in Kuwait. We have left all our goods behind." Another Indian said, "We come by cars across the border and we fly to Bombay. What should we do with our cars? Selling them is very difficult because we did not pay for the customs so we end up leaving them on the border."

Many Indian refugees gather around the Indian embassy checking when they would be leaving while embassy officials try over the telephone to find accommodation for new entrants. According to an embassy spokesman, the Indian foreign minister, who was currently in Jordan, is now in Baghdad seeking cooperation with Iraq in order to provide secure evacuation.

The spokesman said they hoped for swifter means of transport back to India, "we are hoping that Iraq would allow ships to take the refugees out of Kuwait." There are already a few ships waiting for word. Another possibility would be to allow flights directly from Baghdad to Bombay, the spokesman said.

The official said that he expected a flood of Indians into Jordan in the coming few days. Whereas at the beginning of the takeover it was not clear whether Indians in Kuwait or Iraq would choose to leave, now according to embassy offi-

cials, they no longer have work and with the situation as it is, the Indians and indeed all foreigners are thinking of leaving.

Since August 2, the influx of foreigners has totalled 100,000 and the number is on the increase. A Pakistani national who arrived here said large crowds of Asians and Africans working in Kuwait and Iraq had gathered in front of exit-visa issuing authorities' offices in Baghdad and "the only delay appears to be bureaucracy."

According to reports from the Gulf, many Asian nationals, including Indians, Pakistanis, Sri Lankans, Bangladeshis, managed to reach Saudi Arabia after fleeing Kuwait and have either flown home from one of the Saudi airports or crossed over to Bahrain and took flights home.

Several Asian countries have approached the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for help in evacuating their nationals from Kuwait, but the Geneva-based ICRC pleaded helplessness citing the absence of any Iraqi request to the organisation.

Iraq later approached the ICRC for help in arranging the exchange of prisoners of war with Iran, but no request has been reported of any Baghdad approach to the all-Swiss humanitarian body to help in the evacuation process.

Anani urges moves to cope with halt in Arab assistance

AMMAN (Petra) — A noted Jordanian economist said Sunday that Jordan would find itself deprived of financial assistance which normally comes from the Arab Gulf states in view of the present situation in the Gulf region.

"The coming stage should witness closer cooperation between all public and private sectors so that the hardships can be overcome," Jawad Al Anani said on Jordan Television.

Present situation in the Gulf region makes it incumbent on all Arab states to review their own economies and realise that as long as the crisis persists many of their economic aspirations can not be fulfilled, he said.

In reviewing the Arab economy since the 1973 oil crisis, Anani said that Iraq's takeover of Kuwait on Aug. 2 brought about an angry reaction which placed every country on alert, thus underlining the importance of the Gulf region.

Referring to revenues from oil, Anani pointed out that in 1988, per capita income in Arab oil producing states stood at \$4,000 annually, compared to a mere \$700 in other Arab states.

Referring to the volume of Arab trade between 1982 and 1988, Anani said that it amounted to \$230 billion, with the Gulf oil

producing states accounting for 56 per cent although their population constitutes a mere 10 per cent of the total population in the Arab World.

Anani lamented what he described the failure of the Arab World to crystallise a real economic bloc that could compete with the other economic blocs around the world.

Referring to Jordan, he said that the Kingdom relies, for its development, on close cooperation with other Arab countries, largely because of its central geographical location and because of its long confrontation line with the Israeli enemy.

Zarqa starts civil defence courses

ZARQA (Petra) — The Civil Defence Department Sunday organised 15 civil defence training courses in Zarqa governorate. The department will hold 25 training courses next week.

Similar training courses will be held for airport personnel at the Queen Alia International Airport, Amman and Aqaba airports.

The courses are being organised by the Civil Defence Department, in cooperation with the Civil Aviation Authority and the Royal Jordanian.

In Madaba, the municipality set up an operation room which will be entrusted with maintaining coordination between the

Civil Defence Departments and the newly set up civil defence training centres.

In Amman the Civil Defence Department called on all people wishing to be trained on civil defence works, to register their names at the various civil defence centres or police stations.

Once the registration process is over, the department will announce the names of the training centres, where each person would be trained.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zaru displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).
- ★ Art exhibition by Suhaila Al Kowrani at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ French film entitled "Sauvage et beau" at the French Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

On behalf of the family of the late beloved Semaan Michael Layous

Raymonde and Robert Atcheson would like to express their sincere appreciation to all those who shared their sorrow.

THANK YOU

Jordan, Indonesia to boost trade, cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — Indonesia and Jordan have been able for the past years to strengthen and develop their relationship and to diversify their cooperation in various fields, said Indonesia's Ambassador to Jordan Sumaryo Suryokusumo.

Indonesia is determined to enhance these relations for the benefit of the two countries, the ambassador added in a statement he issued to mark Indonesia's independence day on August 17.

It is important to note that Jordanian companies in cooperation with the Jordan Trade Asso-

ciation (JTA) have taken part in Indonesian trade fair held in Jakarta recently to market Jordanian products. As stated by JTA executive-director who led the Jordanian delegation to the fair, some of the Jordanian businessmen have successfully concluded contracts with Indonesian agents to market Jordanian products in Indonesia.

"They are also very optimistic on the prospect of bartering for the Indonesian commodities such as wood, paper, iron and chemical products," said the ambassador's statement.

He said that, in an attempt to further enhance bilateral trade relations, an agreement on trade and economic cooperation was concluded during the visit to Indonesia by His Majesty King Hussein in 1986 and there is the possibility of signing a new bilateral agreement to avoid double taxation in the two countries.

"Furthermore, in the investment sector, businessmen of the two countries should be encouraged to tap direct investment opportunities in each country through an exchange of visits by the chambers of commerce and

industry as well as trade missions from both sides," the ambassador added.

According to the statement, the overall balance of trade between Indonesia and the Middle East countries reached the deficit of \$482.2 million in 1987, but was reduced to \$304.1 million in 1988, mainly because of import of crude oil from Saudi Arabia and rock phosphate from Jordan.

The Indonesian government, the statement said, is currently seeking a way to improve the trade balance with Jordan which is still in favour of the Kingdom.

THANKS

The Chilangwas wish to thank friends for their support through officiating, attendance, presents, lovely flowers and good wishes during and after the marriage of their daughter

MUTALE to CHILIMA CHISELA of Lusaka Zambia.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1979.

Chairman of the Board of Directors:
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:
MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:
Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4.

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Kuwait: A free zone?

THE IRAQI government on Saturday announced a decision in principle to turn Kuwait into a free zone in order to facilitate financial transactions and restore confidence of the private sector. The Iraqi authorities formed a committee to draft a plan to that effect as soon as possible.

Some observers reacted to this move with scepticism. The decision cannot be serious and is at best premature, they argued.

For the Iraqis, however, and in keeping with their tradition of being serious about what they say, the decision appears to be meaningful and logical since it might represent an ideal and practical solution to the peculiar situation of Kuwait.

Without turning Kuwait into a free zone, the Iraqi authorities will find only two options available to them: Either the financial and banking system of Iraq and its regulations will have to be changed radically or even turned upside down, or the banks operating in Kuwait would have to be closed down along with all insurance companies and financial intermediaries, which could not possibly adapt themselves overnight to comply with the Iraqi laws and regulations.

Any of these two options would be an administrative nightmare. Hence the Iraqi decision to convert Kuwait into a free zone, which can be implemented with minimum change.

In the eyes of the Iraqis the solution will not only facilitate financial dealings for Iraq. It will also make more of them possible. It will not, however, be enough to restore confidence of the businessmen, because that takes longer time, assuming in the first place that the political climate stabilises. The private sector in Kuwait will not trust announcements, but will wait to see the implementation.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily expressed astonishment at the United States double dealings with the Gulf crisis and said while Washington keeps talking about its concern to resolve the crisis quickly, it continues to escalate tension while its defence secretary announces plans for stationing U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia for many years to come. The paper said that all American actions clearly point to the fact that it is concerned only in imposing its domination on Arab oil resources and Arab wealth for many years to come and there is no credibility in empty words of peace and security in the region. Needless to say that the presence of foreign troops in the region for many years to come is bound to transform Arab land into a volcano that can erupt at any moment, with the explosion causing worldwide devastation, the paper said. It said that the Arabs should take note that they are facing an enemy which intends to harm their interests, and that the U.S. troops are using the presence of some Arab forces as a legitimate cover for their presence in the area.

Al Dastour daily commented on King Hussein's meeting with Jordanian journalists during which he reviewed developments in the Gulf crisis and Jordan's position vis-a-vis the situation in the Gulf. The paper pointed in particular to the King's reference to the present crucial situation which he described as a "crossroads leading the Arabs either to a dark alley or to salvation." It said that the King's statement implied that the nation should be ready for all eventualities, and should remain steadfast in the face of challenges through further cohesion and further shouldering of responsibilities. Jordan, the paper noted, has chosen the path of serving the higher national interests despite the hardships it might face and the odds it is struggling against. Jordan is now facing the most crucial situation in its entire history but it is ready to offer sacrifices for the sake of upholding the principles of the Great Arab Revolt and serving its goals and objectives, the paper added.

A guest columnist in Al Ra'i daily attacked the United States and Britain for their double standard policies in their dealings with issues in the Arab region. Khalil Al Sawahiri says that both nations have been issuing protests against Iraq's handling of the foreign nationals problem in Kuwait and Iraq, but they both acted similarly when confronted by similar conditions. The writer notes that the U.S. and Britain rounded up Italian and Japanese nationals during the Second World War and placed them in concentration camps, and forced them to do hard labour. Britain and the U.S. never respected international laws concerning the interests of other nations during world conflicts, but resorted to arbitrary actions, the writer said. He says that the U.S. did not respect international laws when it imposed a blockade on Iraq, when its troops invaded Panama to topple its regime, and when it failed to impose United Nations sanctions on South Africa lest its own interests should be affected. The U.S. and its allies remember international laws, only when their own nationals are involved, he said.

Western media and the Arabs: Where does pursuit of truth lie?

By Sana Atiyeh
and
Nermeen Murad

Having observed closely the way in which some American and European media representatives operated, out of a centre (Intercontinental Hotel) where hundreds of Western journalists and television people dig up stories to send to their papers or television and radio stations, we came to a conclusion: The Western media concentrates on news on Westerners in Kuwait and Iraq, on anti-Western sentiments in Jordan, and other issues related to Westerners. That is perfectly alright, if we disregard the safety and interest of everybody in the region.

So if the Western media is working 24 hours a day from Jordan to cover news on Westerners and Western interests, why does this same media, particularly the American, not try to shed enough light on the potential dangers of their country's military build-up and interventionist policies to their interest in the area?

The U.S. intervention in Vietnam is still fresh on the minds of many Americans. If George Bush refuses to consider backing out from deploying American troops in the Gulf and is worried about "losing face," has anyone bothered to concentrate on the strong possibility of losing young American lives? Why is the American media not emphasising the fact that Bush is putting young American lives on the line in a

conflict that will obviously be a lot messier than Vietnam? Are the lives of American soldiers not concern to him? If God forbid, war breaks out because of the extreme military pressure on Iraq, will the mothers of the young American soldiers hold President Bush responsible for putting their children in the middle of a war that is not even theirs? In a war in a place somewhere in Arabia, thousands of miles away from their state? Why should they endanger their lives because the price of oil and gas for American cars might go up a few cents? Even with American lives lost, the price of oil will still rise, we think.

Isn't anyone thinking about these questions? Why is the American media not tackling these issues that are directly involved with the most important U.S. interest: American human lives? Or is this issue too hypothetical or difficult for the American media to portray and analyse?

For God's sake, if war in the region and the loss of Arab lives do not interest the American media, then it should at least think about the danger to American lives which should be of interest to all Americans watching their TV sets back home.

But back here in the region, to many Jordanian journalists and political analysts who come into contact with many of the hundreds of Western reporters currently working out of Amman, and to those who monitor the Western reports,

there is a widespread belief that the Western press is not able to portray the realities of Jordanian and Arab sentiments and policies in a balanced and objective manner concerning the Gulf crisis. They believe that the inability of the Western press to comprehend the feelings and factors that control the political thinking of the Arab public at large, and that of many Arab leaders, will adversely affect the situation in the region to the detriment of any effort to mediate or minimise the risk of war.

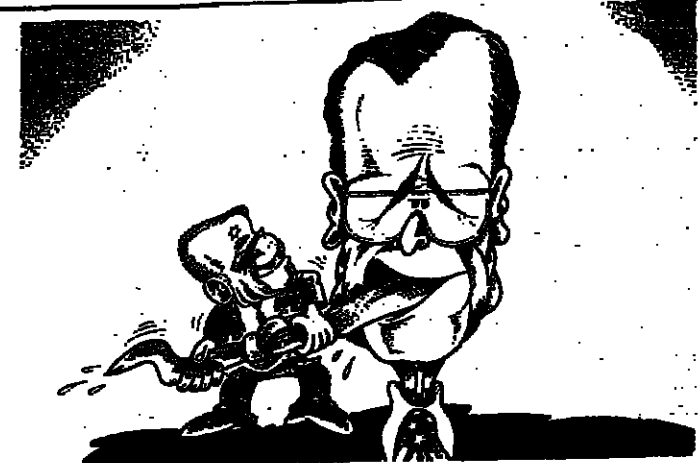
This is not an attempt to belittle the efforts of those journalists who no doubt are trying to comprehend and get down to the bare facts and realities in the area. But this is probably an attempt to remind these journalists that the truth which they are seeking may escape them because they cannot see it.

One of the facts which many of us in the Jordanian press feel is eluding the Western press is that the intricacies of Iraq's entry into Kuwait go beyond labelling Iraqi President Saddam Hussein a "maniac," "loose tiger," "outlaw," or "dictator," in reports they publish and broadcast every day. Jordanians wonder why the Western media describes Saddam in those terms, but yet ignores these descriptions of the very same leaders whom the U.S. is currently supporting. It is this despite the fact that this is the same Western press that in the past attempted to

expose and reveal the corruption and violations of human rights carried out by those leaders in the region who are now America's and the American media's friends.

What is offending us and our people the most, however, is the negative portrayal of King Hussein and Jordan by the Western media and press. The offense does not lie in being emotional about the matter as it is in being unfair and unobjective, where objectivity is a Western term they would have us learn. One fact that has been completely ignored is that King Hussein is an acknowledged wise and experienced leader and an innovator of democracy in the region. Is the Western press not supposed to give credit to an Arab leader and people who have achieved democracy in a region where the word is hardly uttered out loud? Is this not something the West is supposed to respect and support, particularly in the press, instead of supporting regimes that are undemocratic and violators of human rights?

Another concept that the Western media is failing to comprehend is the connection between the Jordanian people's support for Iraq and the Palestinian question. It has been explained over and over again that the double standards of American foreign policy in the Middle East has a large effect on the sentiments of Jordanians and Arabs. Why adopt and go all out to implement four United Nations



Security Council resolutions within two weeks, while other resolutions have rotted over the years waiting to be implemented; namely, resolutions 242 and 338 calling for Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab lands? Another logic used by Arabs supporting Iraq is that the leaders of the Gulf have been supplying cheap oil for the West and particularly the U.S. while America continues to support Israel all the way, and Arab economies continue to suffer as a result. The Arab people will not support Israel, and they support Iraq because there is an effort to put a halt to that. If the answers are so simple, why does the Western press insist that there is no connection between the Gulf and Palestine?

If the Western media is here to analyse the situation then it has to recognise these problems and issues that dominate the political motivations of the people and their thinking. Only then can any sense come out of why people are lining up to join the people's army and are voicing total support for

Iraq. For over twenty years now, we have been calling for the implementation of U.N. resolutions on the Israeli occupation of Palestine but to no avail. How do they want us to accept U.N. resolutions 660, 661, 662 and now 663. When the Western world is not true to itself and will not do a thing to implement the forgotten resolutions 181, 242 and 338? Only when the West itself has become objective can the Arab World work with Americans and others on the basis of mutual respect and understanding.

Should not the hundreds of Western journalists and correspondents who have arrived from every corner of the world to work from a Democratic country like Jordan take advantage of the opportunity to give the true picture to their people? Should not the press play its role effectively by reporting the facts as they are in an effort to bring our two worlds closer together? Or perhaps exert an effort to avoid a war in the region that will not benefit anyone, whether in the U.S., here or anywhere else in the world?

De facto coalition

(Continued from page 1)

Although the Brotherhood did not change its position towards the Iraqi control of Kuwait, the arrival of American troops in Saudi Arabia, the site of two of the most revered Islamic shrines, Mecca and Medina — provoked a sharp shift in the movement's position. "Regardless of our opinion of Saddam Hussein, King Fahd's invitation of American troops to the Holy Land was utterly unacceptable," a Muslim Brotherhood official said. "Jerusalem was already under Israeli occupation and now the two most important Islamic shrines left were under American control," he noted.

The Saudi move ignited long-held Islamic frustration and anger against the perceived Western disdain of holy Islamic religion and shrines, prompting speakers at a mass rally organised by the movement after the U.S. deployment in Saudi Arabia to accuse King Fahd of "treachery."

"The issue at stake was no longer an Iraqi-Kuwaiti conflict but a new crusade against Islam. The result was the perceived coalition of all various groups against one enemy, the U.S.," one of the observers said.

Although this emerging coalition has not yet taken a definite shape, and demonstrations in support of Iraq and against the U.S. have rallies nevertheless been co-organised by all groups which have joined forces under "the committee of defence of Iraq against the American invasion."

Both Islamist and leftist groups have been issuing appeals in the Arabic dailies calling for national unity and for an all-out mobilisation of the people — a unity which contrasts sharply with the heated competition rivalry which prevailed prior to the eruption of the Gulf crisis.

According to many political observers, those early days the seculars and the Islamists were heading to a showdown as they competed to control popular organisations and public opinion across the country.

The challenge posed by the presence of the American troops, however, has reversed the confrontational process into one of cooperation, and understanding, those observers said.

Arab analysts believe that the narrowing of the gap between the seculars and the Islamists applies to all countries in varying degrees, although its manifestations are stronger in Jordan, Tunisia and Algeria, mainly due to broader political freedoms, than in most other Arab countries and to the obvious strength of the Islamists in the three states.

In the case of Jordan, in the period before the Gulf crisis erupted, the internal political scene was characterised not only by the strong rivalry between the Islamists and the seculars but also by the latter being plagued by serious divisions among themselves.

Weakened by those divisions, the secular groups were faced by a

strong challenge which the more homogeneous Islamists presented them with in successive bids to control the professional associations, the trade and students unions, youth and women organisations, as well as Jordanian local councils.

Except for the professional associations, the Islamists swept the councils of most of the popular organisations, including the women's union. The rivalry and the dominance of the Islamists created fears that either the Jordanian life style was threatened or the competition might take violent forms, jeopardising the national unity of the country.

But less than a week following the arrival of foreign troops to the Gulf, all political trends in Jordan decided to unify their efforts to "confront the American invasion."

Algeria and Tunisia

In Algeria, the growing tension between the Islamic Salvation Front, which swept the general parliamentary elections there recently, and the more secular — with leftist leanings — Algerian Liberation Front Party, appears to have temporarily deescalated as both opposed the American role in the Gulf.

To a certain extent the same applies to Tunisia, where friction between the seculars and the Islamists was widening, in favour of the latter. There, again, all groups joined in rallies and committees "against the American intervention."

Although the convergence of interests between the seculars and the fundamentalists, even if it might be for short term, applies to the popular movement in most Arab countries. In the case of Egypt and Syria, the conflicting positions of the Islamists and the government could actually widen the gap, some analysts argue.

In Syria, the Muslim Brotherhood, which was dealt a heavy blow several years ago when Syrian President Hafez Al Assad ordered his troops to shell their stronghold in Hama, has declared its willingness to escalate the struggle against the government. The Syrian Brotherhood is said to have been encouraged by signs of Arab and Islamic popular condemnation of the Damascus government's support for the dispatching of Syrian and other Arab troops to join the American-led forces in Saudi Arabia.

In Egypt, where Iraq does not appear to enjoy the same popular support, the Egyptian secular parties, particularly leftist parties, and the Muslim Brotherhood showed an almost identical position in opposing both the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait and the American presence in the Gulf.

All analysts agree, however, that the results of the newly-emerging alliance between the Islamists and seculars, might contribute to popular uprising against pro-American governments in the region if a military confrontation between Iraq and the U.S. were to take place.

Egypt does not approve of Arafat's pro-Iraq stance

By Maurice Guindl
The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — The PLO's support of Iraq's takeover of Kuwait has damaged its close friendship with Egypt.

Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, endorsed Iraq at an Arab summit in Cairo. Egyptian journalists said Arafat tried to prevent the conference from adopting an anti-Iraqi measure by proposing that the summit send a delegation to Baghdad to meet with Saddam. The idea was rejected.

Egyptian officials say Arafat's support of the takeover seriously erodes his credibility in the drive to force Israel to withdraw from Palestinian land.

"By taking the position he did, Arafat struck at the very

heart of the Palestinian question and relegated it to second or third place, despite its gravity," said Amr Moussa, Egypt's chief delegate to the United Nations who attended the summit.

He said the PLO's position makes the Gulf crisis more difficult to solve, perpetuating a situation that dwarfs the Palestinian problem.

Also, it gives evidence of a Palestinian double standard on the principle of foreign occupation, Moussa said. By upholding the occupation of Kuwait, Arafat undercut his opposition to Israel's occupation since 1967 of the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem, where about 1.7 million Palestinians live.

As the only Arab country at peace with Israel and having close relations with Washing-

ton, Egypt has been one of the PLO's diplomatic ally in the search for a Palestinian settlement.

"The way he's been behaving," Arafat cannot expect Egypt to go out of its way to help him as it did in the past," one Egyptian official said. But he emphasised that this does not affect Egypt's basic opposition to Israeli occupation of Arab lands.

The crisis that followed Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion and subsequent annexation of Kuwait has already effectively destroyed the Arab Cooperation Council, formed in February last year as an Arab political and economic alliance.

The group's founders were Egypt, Jordan, Yemen and Iraq.

An indication of how badly split the ACC has become is

that all four members voted differently on a resolution adopted last week in Cairo to deal with the Iraqi invasion.

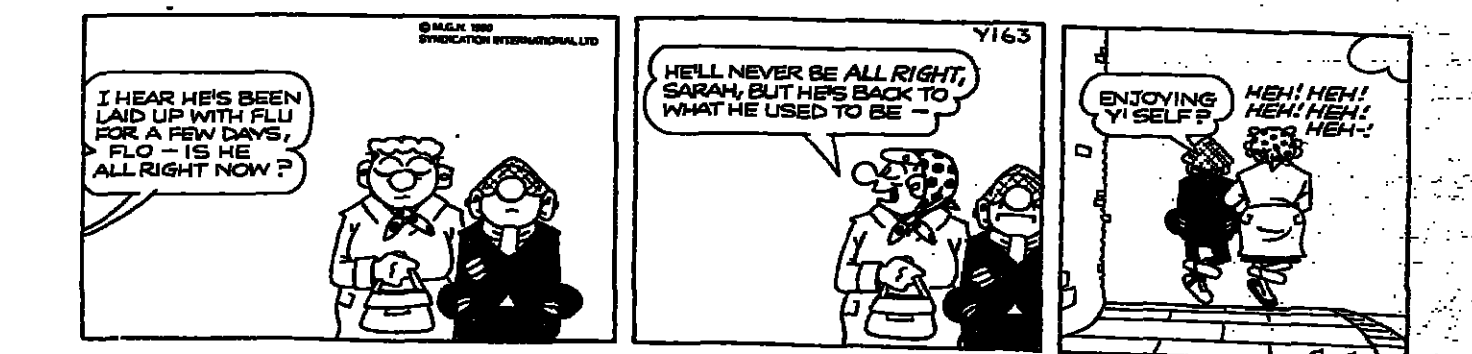
The resolution provided for Arab states to send troops to Saudi Arabia to help defend it against possible Iraqi attack. It strongly condemned the invasion of Kuwait, demanded immediate Iraqi withdrawal and indirectly supported Saudi Arabia's call for U.S. military assistance.

"As far as Egypt is concerned, the Arab Cooperation Council is almost a dead letter," said a senior government official, speaking on condition of anonymity. But he would not say whether Egypt plans to freeze its membership or withdraw. Other officials said Egypt may refrain from action and just let the ACC die slowly and quietly.

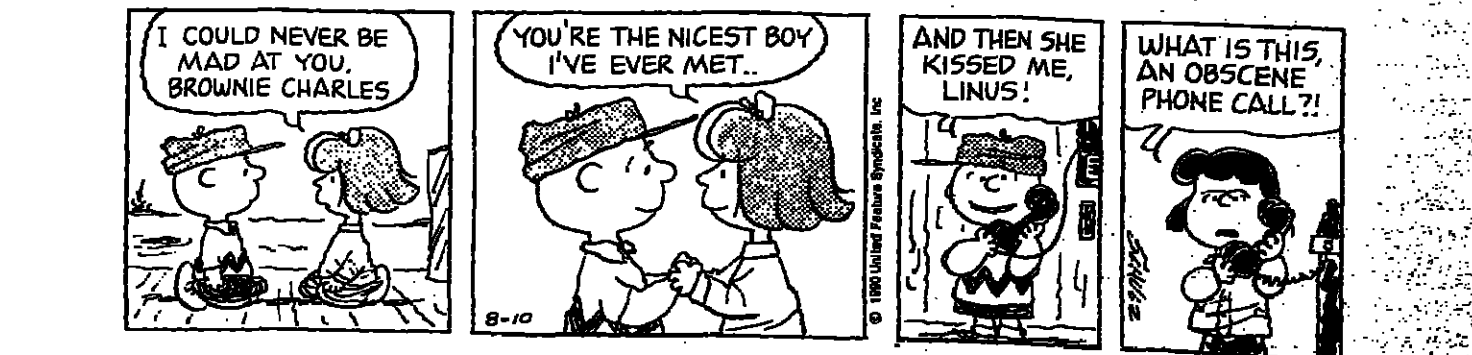
Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Drive carefully!
Traffic can be hazardous

Blockade puts Aqaba on the tourist map

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The international media attention on Aqaba has caused short-term damage to the tourism industry at the Red Sea port, but the entire Gulf crisis might have done what millions of dollars of advertising could not have done to boost the flow of tourists to the famous beaches there in the long term, according to many hoteliers and tour operators in the Kingdom.

"Every newspaper, every weekly, every agency and every publication is talking about Aqaba as the key to the success or failure of the international sanctions against Iraq," said a leading tour operator in Amman. "Of course, it is very negative in the short term, but there cannot be any denial of the fact that it has put Aqaba on the world tourism map," he added, preferring to remain anonymous.

Most hotels in Aqaba are reporting business as normal for August but heavy cancellations for the months of September, October and November after four European companies postponed the launching of charter flights to

the port from Sept. 15 to early December.

"We have about 70 per cent occupancy now, which is good for the month of August," said Sami Ansari, manager of the Holiday International hotel. "But we have been notified of cancellations of reservations from September onwards," Ansari told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview.

The charter flights, mostly from Finland, West Germany and Austria, originally scheduled to begin in September and continuing until May end, would have brought in an average of 1,000 tourists every week, according to Ansari. "They have now cancelled all charter flights until early December, which means that this season is over, and that everything depends on what the situation is in December."

A representative of the owners of the Coral Beach Hotel said the hotel was doing very little business at present but was expecting a group of Japanese tourists to arrive in a few days. "Things do not look good at all in the short term," he said confirming that several groups have cancelled their reservations for September and October.

Simon Khoury, owner of the three Aquamarina hotels, admitted that business prospects in general in Aqaba may be not very good but said "business is as usual" for him. "I do not know how my colleagues (in the industry) feel about it, but I think most hotels have taken in whatever could be expected in the month of August," he told the Jordan Times. "Of course, we have received cancellations and it is disturbing, but we at Aquamarina do not solely depend on charter groups."

On the other hand, Khoury said, he believes that the world media attention on Aqaba may cause immediate losses for tour operators and hoteliers, "but it is very positive in the long-term simply because everyone who reads a newspaper or listens to news in now reading or hearing about Aqaba."

"What better publicity could we expect for Aqaba?" he asked.

"Once the Gulf crisis is over and the situation is clear, it will be easier for us to sell Aqaba as a destination."

The Coral Beach representative, who said the owner was on a trip abroad, appears to agree. "This publicity,

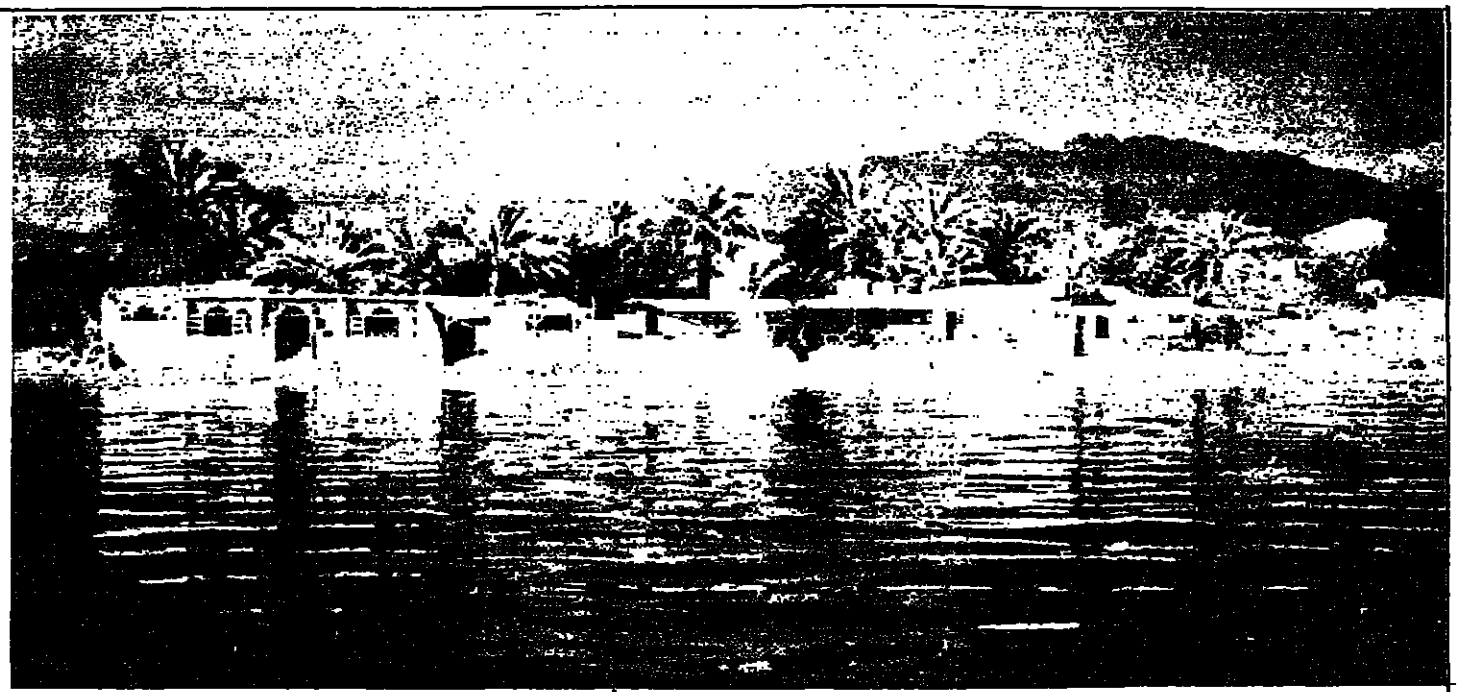
although it has caused us losses this season, may work in Aqaba's favour and make it popular and a well-known name as a resort beach," he said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Ansari of the Holiday International formerly the Holiday Inn, sees it as possible "if the reports of Aqaba in the foreign press are constructive." Even at that, he said, "it is a long-term possibility, perhaps a matter of two or three years. But the question is: How many of hotels can survive (in business) for so many years?"

Sima'an Qussous of the Miramar Hotels shares this opinion. "The way Aqaba has been the focus of attention will not necessarily do any good in the short term," he said. "The fact is: business is bad, prospects are bad, and it is not a simple question of tourism to Aqaba but the fate of the Arabian Peninsula."

Ra'd Salah of Al Cazar Hotel said he had no tourist groups but reported about 70 per cent occupancy at the 135-room establishment. "All my clients are non-Arabs," he said. "Some of them have indicated that they might stay on for some time."

"But, that will not improve



A scene of the beaches in Aqaba. Many tourists have cancelled their reservations due to the Gulf crisis but hoteliers are optimistic.

business to any normal level in light of cancellation of reservations," he said.

Another problem that has sprung up is the "sudden departure" of Egyptian staff from many hotels in Aqaba, according to Qussous of Miramar. "Almost 90 per cent of my staff have suddenly given me a month's notice, and most of them have already left without waiting for the notice period to expire," he said. "The problem may not be very immediate, but we will have to tackle this issue when things

return to normal."

Another hotelier, who preferred to remain anonymous, said: "If the Egyptians want to leave, let them. After all, it is their government which forced them to leave by choosing to go against Iraq and the wide Arab sentiment in support of Saddam Hussein and thus inciting in them fears while living in Aqaba."

"Not that anyone would harm them for the position of their government, but most appear to be leaving as a precaution," he added. "In any

event, it might even be a blessing in disguise for many hotels having to lay off staff in the face of reduced business."

Another casualty of the Gulf crisis is the much-awaited visit of tens of thousands of Iraqi tourists to Jordan this season under relaxed travel regulations and release of foreign exchange. "I guess they are busy visiting Kuwait," was the ironic comment of travel agent who said he had worked "hard" over the past four months to arrange facilities for

the expected wave of Iraqis. "It is no longer an issue of tourism alone," commented another leading tour operator in Amman. "The effects of the Gulf crisis is showing on every phase of the Jordanian economy," he said. "The crux of the matter is if the Gulf problem is contained now then the impact on the Jordanian economy of the events of the past two weeks could also be minimised."

"But, the question remains: How soon can it be contained?"

Saddam presents five-point initiative

(Continued from page 1)

on the council, voted in favour of the resolution but said food should be allowed into Iraq.

Following is the text of the five-point initiative announced by Saddam Hussein. (Reuters translation from Arabic):

Firstly, that the Security Council should guarantee, with the approval of the United States, that America should withdraw its forces from the region according to a timetable no longer than the period it took for these forces to come to the region, and that the Security Council should also undertake to Saudi Arabia that it will stand militarily against Iraq, jointly with those who accept the resolution; if Iraq tried to attack Saudi Arabia, at the same time both Iraq and Saudi Arabia would guarantee that neither would attack the other or harm its interests.

Secondly, or that the Security Council should undertake to guarantee peace and security in the whole region according to the general principles in our initiative. And that foreign forces should withdraw from the holy places in the Hejaz and Nejd. We consider this option is the one that would achieve complete and comprehensive peace and achieve certain stability for this region of the world.

Thirdly, if either one or two are accomplished, then foreigners would immediately be allowed to travel as they choose and in freedom.

Fourthly, if it is not possible to achieve the above, it would be enough, as far as we are concerned, for the president of the United States to make a clear, public and unambiguous undertaking to withdraw his troops and the troops of his allies from Arab lands and the holy places of the Muslims according to a timetable no longer than it took them to assemble, and that he should guarantee not to use force against Iraq, announce that he respects international law and will not break it, lift the blockade on Iraq immediately and on all sides and treat Iraq on the basis of mutual respect and not harming the interests of the other. On our side, if the above is completed, we will use our constitutional powers to allow the foreigners concerned to travel outside Iraq, each as he chooses and decides.

Fifthly, as for the question of Kuwait, the Arabs would treat it as an Arab issue, as happened with all similar issues, such as the Western Sahara issue between Morocco and the parties to the dispute, like the Syrian occupation of Lebanon and other issues.

Food shortages

Following is a Reuters translation of the full text of a statement issued by Iraq's Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs Saturday warning of food shortages for foreigners trapped in Iraq and Kuwait.

The original Arabic text was carried by the Iraqi News agency (INA):

In the light of the decision taken by representatives of the Iraqi people and announced by the president of the National Assembly yesterday affirming that the people of Iraq are a peaceful people who want and reject wars and those calling for them.

And as the Iraqis have committed no aggression against West and have not harmed its legitimate interests,

And as certain Western countries have adopted a hostile attitude towards the people of Iraq at the instigation of the United States of America without any justification, and the USA and those who cooperated with it are inciting war against Iraq in addition to occupying Arab land and

Muslim holy shrines in Hedjaz and Nejd.

And as the presence of Western foreigners in Iraq may be one of the means for achieving peace and preventing aggression and war thus making the American president and those allied with him reconsider his aggressive policy,

The ministry of labour and social affairs announces the following:

1. America and its allies have gone beyond an economic boycott which in essence means a ban on commercial exchanges. They embarked on the implementation of an economic blockade by the force of arms against Iraq, including food and medicines, and this is an act of war under world norms and international law.

This measure has led and will lead to a shortage in imported food, including milk for babies.

As the world's babies irrespective of their nationalities are God's beloved and the beloved of the leader Saddam Hussein, and in harmony with our humanitarian principles, we have decided to treat babies of foreign families which the people have decided to

host fully equally with the babies of Iraq in determining their needs. Should there be a shortage in babies' milk, medicines and other requirements because of the boycott then whatever shortages of food, medicines, clothes or anything else affect the babies of Iraq will also affect them equally.

2. In view of the circumstances of the boycott and economic blockade imposed by the USA and its allies through pressure, armed force and in a unilateral manner on Iraq, it will not be possible to ensure food for all adults in the manner we desire. Some Europeans, and the British people in particular, have passed through such an experience or something similar to it. Thus, they appreciate such circumstances and the measures necessary.

Accordingly, it is quite natural that priority be given, as far as the type and quantity of food are concerned, firstly to the armed forces, because they are the shield of the homeland and the people against aggression, and then to workers in plants, factories and administrations related to

war operations. The others will have a different level of interest.

And as the foreigners in question will not be among those engaged in the armed forces or activities related to them, their share of the food, the quantity and type, will be affected along with that of other Iraqis by our imports of food in one way or another.

3. On the basis of No. 2 above and to ensure the necessary level and quantity of food for foreigners and Iraqis, the right solution is to end the boycott which the U.S. imposed on Iraq and the economic blockade that Bush and his allies are engaged in imposing by force of arms and unilaterally on Iraq. And as an advanced and speedy measure everything related to food, medicines and humanitarian materials and goods should not be boycotted.

We call on the families of foreigners in Iraq, those in solidarity with them and humanitarian associations in the West and in the world to raise their voices in support of these noble, humanitarian aims.

May God's success be with those advocating peace and love and rejecting war and enmity.

Jordan, Sudan protest interception

(Continued from page 1)

Port Sudan when our government instructed it to proceed to Aqaba to pick up people who have been waiting for transport home."

"The ship was intercepted by an American warship and it was asked to sail back immediately. American helicopters flew over the ship and warned it to return. The ship sailed back and is now 110 miles south of the Gulf of Aqaba," according to a report carried by the Sudan News Agency (SUNA).

The agency said the Sudanese foreign minister, Ali Sahloul, contacted the U.S. ambassador in Khartoum Saturday night.

"After communicating with Washington, the U.S. ambassador replied that the American authorities had no objection to the ship's continuing its voyage on condition it submitted first to inspection and then carried the Sudanese and their luggage only," SUNA said. "The foreign minister said that this was the first time a non-Iraqi ship had been intercepted while proceeding to a state other than Iraq. This represented a dangerous precedent."

The Doagala was waiting outside Jordanian territorial waters for "further developments" Sunday evening, Ambassador Radwan said in Amman. It was not immediately known when it will proceed to dock at Aqaba.

Meanwhile, a Chinese freighter, identified as the Chen Chin, was

also challenged by American warships before being allowed to proceed to Aqaba, port sources said. The nature of the cargo carried by the ship, which came from Jeddah, was not immediately known.

Earlier, an Iraqi ship carrying food docked at Aqaba after what was described in international reports as "the one which slipped through the American and British net," in the Red Sea. (British ships are also patrolling the Red Sea in conjunction with the U.S. vessels).

According to port officials, the Zein Al Qaws, which was delayed for two days at Suez in what the Egyptian authorities described as a wrangle over toll fee, is carrying cargo for both Jordan and Iraq. It was not immediately clear how it escaped "the net."

Shipping activities at Aqaba have come to trickle over the past three days, and no vessel carrying Iraqi-bound cargo other than the Zein Al Qaws docked since early Thursday, according to shipping sources and port officials.

Fifteen vessels were in Jordanian territorial waters as of Sunday noon, including two vessels, one Indian and one Greek, which arrived since Thursday to load phosphates for India and Bangladesh, the sources said. Seven of them were scheduled to be loaded with Jordanian products and eight of them discharging cargo, according to the sources.

Iraq

(Continued from page 1)

that no further action was taken against them.

Sources said it was not clear how long the navy would maintain its surveillance of the tankers, both of which were outbound from the Gulf. The tankers were riding high in the water and apparently had no cargo aboard.

The U.S. and British navies have undertaken the interceptions effort to enforce U.N.-backed economic sanctions to halt the flow of goods to and from Iraq.

Although Washington calls the effort "multinational," the forces are operating independently of each other and without U.N. endorsement of the use of force.

Iraq warned Sunday that a military clash with Western forces in the Gulf would ignite a conflagration involving all Arab states.

In a Sunday editorial, the Iraqi daily "Al Thawra" said any armed confrontation would not be limited to Iraq, the United States and its Western allies but would escalate into a conflict involving all Arab lands.

Meanwhile, Radio France International (RFI) reported that for several days westerners have been kept inside Kuwaiti oil installations. It gave no further details.

RFI also quoted Egyptian engineers as saying that the Iraqi troops had mined Kuwaiti oil ports and placed explosive charges in the capital city's electric and water plants.

... Z.W.A. THE ONLY WAY

FIRST CLASS SERVICE FOR A FAST CLASS CARGO

TEL: 819560, FAX: 819883
TELEX: 22100 Z.W.A.JO
P.O. BOX 12, AMMAN

4 RENT

Many villas and apartments for rent & sale furnished or unfurnished in Abdoun, Um Uthaina, Sweifish and many other locations.

For more details please call **ABDOUN REAL ESTATE**

Tel: **810609, 810605**
Fax: **810520**

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SECTION CALL

667171/6-670140/4
Ext. 223

THE PROFESSIONALS ALWAYS CHOOSE THE RELIABLE

PACKING, AIR FREIGHT, FORWARDING, DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICES AND DELIVERIES, CUSTOMS CLEARANCE, TICKETS AND RESERVATIONS.

AMIN KAWAR & SONS
TEL: 604676 604696
P.O. BOX 7806 AMMAN

STUDIO HAIG

Professional Quality in 1 Hour Service

Develop your photo star at our shop and get:

- JUNKIE photo size 30% larger
- Free enlargements 20 x 30 cm

Shawmeh - Opp. Grindstone Bank, Phone: 664022
Sweifish Tel: 664091

CROWN INT'L EST.

packing, shipping, forwarding, storing, clearing, door-to-door service

Agents all over the world

Tel: 664008, Fax: 698832
Tlx: 22295 BESMCO JO
P.O. Box 22487 AMMAN JORDAN

Admiral Home Appliances

duty Free is available

- Freezers
- Refrigerators
- Washers & Gas Ranges

Wafa Dajani & Sons Co.
Makhs Street - Tel. 824658

Dine & Dance Nightly to Live Entertainment Variety of Music

Res: 665121
BELLY DANCING

EASTERN

DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICE, INTERNATIONAL FORWARDING, AIR & SEA FREIGHT

TEL: 621 775 FAX: 656 270
TLX: 23 0 23 POB: 815 408
AMMAN-JORDAN

RESTAURANT CHINA

The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan

1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Alhijyah Girls School

Take-away service

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.
6:30-Midnight
Tel. 638968

LOBBY LOUNGE

AL SABELL DAILY PIANO ENTERTAINMENT

المؤسسة العالمية للخدمات المتخصصة

UNIVERSAL SPECIALISED SERVICES EST.

Specialists in Packing Air & Sea freight forwarding Storage & Insurance

House - hold effects insured by Jordanian Financial Insurance Co.

Valuable Commodities

Please call Tel: 610641
P.O. Box 6408 Amman.
1st Circle Jabal Amman

Hashim's Restaurant

FIRST CLASS INDIAN RESTAURANT

Special Executive Lunches

Take away service available

Open Daily 12:30-3:30 pm
7:30-11:30 pm

After the Philadelphia Hotel Towards 3rd circle

Tel: 659619 659520

NIGHTCLUB & Restaurant

folkloric troupes, ballet dancer, luxurious dinner

Singing - Dancing and Fun

COMMODORE

MIDDLE EAST

Tel: 665186 - 667159
From 10 p.m.

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO RENT IN WEST AMMAN

CALL SOHA AT

Saudi Real Estate 687821/22

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket

Mongolian Barbecue for Lunch Friday only

Tel: 818214

Come and taste our specialties

Open daily 12:00 - 3:30 p.m.
6:30 - Midnight

The First Class Hotel in Amman that has a Kitchenette in every room...

DAROTEL

Amman - Tel. 668193
P.O. Box 9403 - Fax 602434
Tel: 23888 DAROTL JO

Ideal Residence For Exatriates and Businessmen

& Here Now The Minaret REAL ESTATE

real estate "R" US

Just Call Us
Sales Dept. 833479
Rental Dept. 833478

Peking Restaurant

AUTHENTIC CHINESE CUISINE

elegant colorful atmosphere

moderate prices
shemsan Tel. 660250
(closed on Mondays)

Ali Baba Restaurant

Delicious food

Lebanese Hors-D'oeuvre

Fresh Fish & Lobster, Meat, Calameres, Chicken

Sayadih & Arabian Mansaf are our specialty

Tel. 313901, P.O. Box: 1681
Aqaba - Jordan

Becker, Lundgren to play in Hardcourt tennis final

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Top-seeded Boris Becker trailed 0-2 before winning six of seven games in the final set to beat No. 4 Jay Berger 6-4, 6-3 Saturday in the semifinals of the U.S. Hardcourts Championships.

Becker advanced to Sunday's final in his only Hardcourt event before the U.S. Open begins on Aug. 27.

The world's third-ranked player will face unseeded Peter Lundgren, who scored his second straight upset with a 6-4, 6-4 victory over No. 14 Richey Reneberg.

Berger held serve to open the second set. He took advantage of a loose service game by Becker to win four straight points and lead 2-0.

The West German, the U.S. Hardcourts champion in 1988, took Berger to deuce three times in the third game before Berger netted a forehand that pulled Becker within 1-2.

"All of a sudden I felt good again and everything seemed to work well for me," said Becker, who won 13 of the next 14 points.

Berger, of the United States, American has never beaten Becker in five career meetings, and he said he knew immediately that it wouldn't happen here.

"The heat was getting to me. When we warmed up, we knew

whatever happened on the court was not going to be fun. It wasn't," said Berger, ranked 13th in the world and a finalist in Indianapolis last year.

Temperature near 90 degrees Fahrenheit (32 degrees Celsius) combined with extreme humidity to make it feel closer to 105 degrees Fahrenheit (40 Celsius). "Every step hurts and it's difficult to play tennis in this weather," Becker said.

Lundgren had upset second-seeded Andre Agassi 6-4, 6-0 in less than an hour in the quarterfinals.

The Swede was nearly as quick against Reneberg, taking just an hour and 15 minutes and using two aces like he did against Agassi to close out the match.

Lundgren, ranked 153rd in the world, had won just four singles matches before Indianapolis. He broke Reneberg's serve to go up 4-3 in the first set and then served a love-game for a 5-3 advantage.

After Reneberg held serve, Lundgren served another love-game to win the set 6-4 in 38 minutes before a sellout of 8,500 people at the Indianapolis Sports Centre.

"I was cruising today. I felt very confident. I was serving anywhere I want and I got a lot of free points," Lundgren said.

He got the only service break

of the second set in the seventh game when his backhand passing shot ticked the baseline.

"I can't really believe it. I was trying to win the first round. I haven't been in a final since last year," Lundgren said.

Reneberg said he never adjusted to the court conditions. He needed a tiebreaker in the third set Friday to beat No. 6 Pete Sampras.

"The heat bothered me a lot. I felt terrible from the first game. I didn't have much energy to put it together," he said.

Lundgren wore down Reneberg with deep groundstrokes that often kept him two feet behind the baseline in avenging a 7-5, 6-1 defeat to Reneberg at the Toronto indoor event last winter.

Reneberg said few of the players were surprised at Lundgren's success.

"He'll go for a few weeks and lose first round, then get to the finals of a tournament. He's beaten Lendl and now Agassi," Reneberg said.

Becker said he's wary of Lundgren, one of the streakiest players on the tour.

"When he's hot, he's hot. He has won five matches and he's on a good streak. It's tough to play him," he said. But Becker had a message for Lundgren, however.

"I'm playing close to my best right now."

Rostagno eliminates final seeded player at Volvo International

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut (AP) — Derrick Rostagno switched rackets and found his game keeping Andrei Chesnokov off balance Saturday with pinpoint drop shots and cross-court passes to reach the finals of the Volvo International.

The victory capped a week of upsets where all but one of the 16 seeds lost before the semifinals. Rostagno beat the fifth-seeded Chesnokov, 7-6 (7-4), 6-3.

Rostagno, ranked 79th in the

world, faces Todd Woodbridge for the title. Earlier, Woodbridge ousted fellow Australian Mark Woodforde 1-6, 6-4, 6-3.

For the second straight day, Rostagno found his game after changing rackets. He switched to a lighter, more tightly strung racket after falling behind 5-2 in the first set. He lost only four games the rest of the match.

"I just had to find the feel. Once I did, I felt great," Rostagno said. "I don't know what the

difference was. I just felt better." Rostagno made a similar switch Friday against Christo van Rensburg and won seven straight games in his 7-5, 6-0 victory.

Chesnokov fell behind 6-4 in the tiebreaker when Rostagno hit successive cross-court shots. Chesnokov double faulted, one of six, to give Rostagno the set.

In the second set, Rostagno broke Chesnokov in the first game and the last.

East German athletics system collapse could jeopardise future

DRESDEN, East Germany (R) — East Germany's envied training scheme for young athletes has all but collapsed, punching a potentially dramatic hole in the sport's future, one of the country's top athletics officials said.

Heinz Kadow, general secretary of East Germany's DVfL federation, said several top athletes were already considering a transfer to West German clubs after next month's European Championships.

But it is the future of East Germany's special sports schools and training centres dotted around this small country of 16 million people from which its world-class athletes emerged that concerns Kadow.

With the economy in tatters and hundreds of trainers being made redundant as the repercussions of German unification bite, that vaunted system is now jeopardised.

Five years down the road there could be a lack of talent to replace today's established East German athletes and juniors, who dominate several disciplines internationally.

"At the moment children are staying at home," said Kadow at the 41st and last domestic championships before German unification.

"It's difficult to calculate, but I'm sure there are thousands of children who have been selected who are now going to be lost to us."

"The 10-to-13 age group has virtually fallen apart," he said. Their trainers and group leaders are gone and the training centres have few pupils.

In addition, the famed special sports schools are only guaranteed state funding until the end of the coming school year.

The five federal states which will emerge in the East from October are unlikely to be able to keep the 14 schools going on the same scale — a total annual intake of 350 to 400 talented 14-year-olds.

"I'm worried about the gap which appears before we can stabilise the situation," he said. "If you ask me, there will be a hole and we are doing our best to keep it as small as possible."

Long jump and sprint queen Heike Drechsler, a product of the training system, said she also feared for the future of youngsters.

"We have already established ourselves. For the younger ones it will be much more difficult," she

said. Kadow said he did not want to give the impression he was ungrateful to the West German DLV Federation which was doing its best and had guaranteed employment for 50 of the 592 East German trainers.

"(International Amateur Athletic Federation President Primo) Mebilo has told us clearly that the new German federation should be stronger than the sum of the two old federations," he said. "That's a high standard to reach."

One natural by-product of the unification process is that East German athletes will soon be able to switch to wealthier West German clubs without fear of an IAAF suspension.

"I know a number of athletes are considering accepting offers from West German clubs. It's market forces at work," Kadow said. Olympic decathlon champion Christian Schenk is one of them but Kadow declined to name others.

"You cannot just transplant an athlete although it might work well in some cases. It is not in the interest of German athletics to create an East German no-man's-land."

Europe's athletics elite turn attention to Split

By John Mehaffey
Reuters

WEST BERLIN — Linford Christie, his dream of being the world's number one sprinter finally shattered in Zurich this week, will now have to settle for being the best in Europe.

Olympic silver medalist and European and Commonwealth champion, the British runner had hoped to prove himself the world's fastest over 100 metres at the Zurich Grand Prix Wednesday.

Zurich represents the high point of the European Grand Prix season, a meeting where the world's best display their talents in three action-packed hours. It can be the culmination of a season or, as Christie found, the end of a dream.

But although that dream is over, Christie can still look forward to the European Athletics Championships in Split, Yugoslavia which begin on Aug. 27.

Christie had vowed to become the world number one over 100 metres but three defeats by Leroy Burrell put paid to that ambition and the American delivered the coup de grace Wednesday with a comprehensive fourth

victory in Zurich.

Said Burrell: "He ran so well at the Commonwealth Games that he may have come to Europe with a lot of confidence. He lost it very quickly. Right now he's struggling to get his confidence back."

Despite Christie's four losses to Burrell it would be harsh to call his season a failure.

He still finished second in Zurich ahead of a group of classy Americans while the only other European in the race, Frenchman Daniel Sangouma, was a distant seventh.

"I am quite satisfied with my start," Christie said. "I managed to stay in the race until the end. The most important thing for me, however, is the European Championships."

Christie will be a member of a British team which chief coach Frank Dick considers has the potential to win more than 20 medals in Split.

"We have got 22 medal shots," Dick said in Zurich. Britain won 15 medals, including eight golds, at the 1986 championships.

One Briton who looks a gold medal certainty is world javelin record holder Steve Backley.

In Zurich, Backley handed another defeat to Jan Zelezny, the man who briefly held the world mark this year.

The 24-year-old Czechoslovak soldier was despondent afterwards.

"I just couldn't find the proper rhythm when I was running in," Zelezny lamented.

"And then I also had great problems in throwing it."

Olympic women's champion Petre Felke also had problems, although not quite as comprehensive as Zelezny's.

Felke won her event and, in the absence of the 1986 European champion Fatima Whitbread through injury, should win easily in Split.

But the East German said: "I am not at all satisfied with my technique. Maybe I was just expecting too much after I had cleared the 70-metre limit during training with no problems at all."

One athlete who will be more than happy with Wednesday evening's Swiss Anita Protti. Protti emerged as favourite to win the women's 400 metres hurdles in Split by defeating American Sandra Farmer-Patrick, last year's world number one, in Zurich.

U.S. Open may be quieter

NEW YORK (AP) — Unlike in previous years, the thwack of tennis balls hitting rackets may be the loudest sound at the U.S. Open when the tournament opens late this month.

Thanks to a request from New York politicians, the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) will use special takeoff procedures at nearby Laguardia Airport during the open's entire two-week run at the National Tennis Centre.

The decision, announced Thursday, means that, weather-permitting, planes taking off during tournament hours from Aug. 27-Sept. 9 will not use Runway 13, whose normal pattern takes planes straight over the tennis centre.

When weather conditions do mandate the use of Runway 13, planes will follow a rarely-used takeoff pattern that bypasses the centre.

The planes instead may pass low over sections of the flushing, Queens, neighbourhood where the tennis centre is based — a procedure now avoided to ease noise for residents.

The decision was made at the request of New York Mayor David Dinkins and Queens Borough President Claire Shulman, said FAA spokeswoman Kathleen Bergen Thursday.

Dinkins is an avid tennis fan. Ed Fabricius, a spokesman for the United States Tennis Association (USTA), said Friday the request to change the flight patterns is made every year.

"We've always written to the city, the Borough of Queens and the FAA," he said. "We did it two years ago, last year and this year, but this is the first time they've acted."

The open moved from the West Side Tennis Club in Forest Hills to the National Tennis Centre in 1978. The complaints from players and fans about noise from planes taking off at Laguardia started almost immediately.

The third-place finish is the fourth straight major international tournament without any gold for the United States, but it was hard to tell from the players that bronze was a tarnished medal.

"I'm still shaking. I was a little nervous," said Anderson, who became the favourite visiting player of the crowds at Luna Park with his near-flawless ballhandling. "This is one of the highlights of my career. Even though it wasn't for the gold, it was for the bronze and that meant it was for pride."

Any award for the United States looked out of the question with 1:34 left in regulation when Raymond Gausse's 3-point shot gave Puerto Rico a 96-88 lead.

Anderson then took the ball in his hands.

"I want the ball. I have always wanted the ball in those situations," he said. "Let me be the goat. I don't care about pressure and I've never thought about it. Just let me have the ball."

Anderson hit a jumper with 1:21 to play to get the United States within six, and Puerto Rico opted for possession rather than foul shots four times in the final

Navratilova, Seles reach Los Angeles Tennis final

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Top-seeded Martina Navratilova suffered a second-set collapse but came back to defeat No. 4 seed Zina Garrison 6-0, 6-7, 6-4 in the semifinals of the Virginia Slims of Los Angeles tournament.

In Sunday's final of the \$350,000 event, Navratilova faces No. 2 seed Monica Seles, who breezed to a 6-1, 6-0 semifinal victory over Mary Joe Fernandez.

Navratilova holds a 3-1 edge over Seles, but the 16-year-old French Open champion won the last meeting in straight sets to win the Italian Open.

The Navratilova-Garrison semifinal Saturday was a rematch of the 1990 Wimbledon final, which Navratilova won 6-4, 6-1 for a record ninth title at the Grand Slam event.

Navratilova had a harder time with Garrison this occasion, however.

After breezing through the first set and losing only eight points, Navratilova faltered. Up 5-4 in the second set, Navratilova was serving for the match but could not hold her serve.

Garrison held on to force the tiebreaker and won 7-2 to take the set.

After that, however, Garrison's serve troubled her. She lost the final game at love after two double faults.

"It was much closer than it should have been," Navratilova said of the one-hour, 42-minute match. "I was lucky to win in the third. I gave away the second set. I didn't let up on purpose. I just didn't hit my shots."

Garrison said she got her game on track in the second set, but fell apart after tying the third set at 1-1.

But after a backcourt violation, Anderson made two free throws with 51 seconds left.

Todd Day scored 14 seconds later on a rebound of a missed jumper by Anderson after another Puerto Rico turnover.

All Puerto Rico, which had never finished higher than fifth in a World Championship — and that was 31 years ago — had to do was inbound the ball with six seconds left, and it would have won.

Jose Ortiz, who had 25 points and 11 rebounds, tried to inbound the ball, but overthrew Federico Lopez, and the U.S. team had possession and a chance for its third comeback victory in the tournament.

"I thought our pressure forced the turnover because all five of our players pressured the ball," U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "At that point, we had no timeouts, so I called a play. The play was Kenny Anderson. It's one of our better plays."

Anderson took the ball, drove into two players and took a jumper. He was fouled and hit nothing but net with the two free throws, making it 96-96.

The United States scored the first four points of overtime. Edgar Leon scored inside for Puerto Rico with 2:37 left, then it was Anderson who gave the United States a five-point cushion with a 3-point 27 seconds later.

Alonzo Mourning had 20 points, six rebounds and eight blocked shots against a front line that outplayed the United States in an 81-79 victory in the quarterfinals.

Puerto Rico outrebounded the Americans again Saturday, 50-41.

"I served absolutely horrible that last game," Garrison said. "It was over before I knew it."

Navratilova said she was saved by a painful right knee, which hampered her running but forced her to hit better shots to compensate.

"The protective sheeting on that knee gets pinched, and it's important because I lean on that knee when I serve," she said.

"Because of that I started hitting the ball firmer and hitting better. I was not able to run like I normally do."

Garrison and Navratilova have met 30 times, with Garrison winning only once, in the quarterfinals at the 1988 U.S. Open.

Garrison wasn't discouraged by her loss Saturday, saying it was not as important as playing well against Navratilova in the upcoming open.

"I'd rather beat her at the U.S. Open," Garrison said. "You learn from your losses and try to turn them into something positive."

Seles' performance against Fernandez was all positive. She needed just 50 minutes to advance to the final and made just nine unforced errors.

"It's the best I've played this week," Seles said. "It wasn't as easy as the score looks. I had to play my best. I was able to move her around."

Fernandez, seeded sixth, seemed overwhelmed by Seles' serve and shots down the line.

"If she's on, she's hard to beat," Fernandez said. "She has the lines measured and that's hard to beat."

U.S. gets bronze medal at world basketball games

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — The U.S. basketball team used yet another comeback victory to take the bronze medal in the World Basketball Championships.

Kenny Anderson scored 34 points, including two free throws with one second left to send the game into overtime, in a 107-105 victory over Puerto Rico, which led by eight points with 1:34 left.

Yugoslavia, which beat the United States in the semifinals, will face the Soviet Union for the gold medal.

The third-place finish is the fourth straight major international tournament without any gold for the United States, but it was hard to tell from the players that bronze was a tarnished medal.

"I'm still shaking. I was a little nervous," said Anderson, who became the favourite visiting player of the crowds at Luna Park with his near-flawless ballhandling. "This is one of the highlights of my career. Even though it wasn't for the gold, it was for the bronze and that meant it was for pride."

Any award for the United States looked out of the question with 1:34 left in regulation when Raymond Gausse's 3-point shot gave Puerto Rico a 96-88 lead.

Anderson then took the ball in his hands.

"I want the ball. I have always wanted the ball in those situations," he said. "Let me be the goat. I don't care about pressure and I've never thought about it. Just let me have the ball."

Anderson hit a jumper with 1:21 to play to get the United States within six, and Puerto Rico opted for possession rather than foul shots four times in the final

1:19.

But after a backcourt violation, Anderson made two free throws with 51 seconds left.

Todd Day scored 14 seconds later on a rebound of a missed jumper by Anderson after another Puerto Rico turnover.

All Puerto Rico, which had never finished higher than fifth in a World Championship — and that was 31 years ago — had to do was inbound the ball with six seconds left, and it would have won.

Jose Ortiz, who had 25 points and 11 rebounds, tried to inbound the ball, but overthrew Federico Lopez, and the U.S. team had possession and a chance for its third comeback victory in the tournament.

"I thought our pressure forced the turnover because all five of our players pressured the ball," U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "At that point, we had no timeouts, so I called a play. The play was Kenny Anderson. It's one of our better plays."

Anderson took the ball, drove into two players and took a jumper. He was fouled and hit nothing but net with the two free throws, making it 96-96.

The United States scored the first four points of overtime. Edgar Leon scored inside for Puerto Rico with 2:37 left, then it was Anderson who gave the United States a five-point cushion with a 3-point 27 seconds later.

Alonzo Mourning had 20 points, six rebounds and eight blocked shots against a front line that outplayed the United States in an 81-79 victory in the quarterfinals.

Puerto Rico outrebounded the Americans again Saturday, 50-41.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The New Moon in Leo should activate a considerable amount of energy and ambition that you can use to gain the good will of a clever and resourceful personality.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Concentrating upon the materialistic aspects of your affairs shows you where you can make some changes that will be an improvement for your security.

Taurus: (April 20 to May 20) You can see how a better agreement with one of a fixed principles can be of service to you in the long run so prepare to slowly put this in motion.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Behind the scenes activities of a very down-to-earth nature show how your daily duties can be improved by a more consistent set of activities.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Whatever friends can be of service to you in gaining some practical personal wishes are the ones to contact and let know of your wishes.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Consider well your position in the world of outside activity and just what you can do of a worldly nature to increase your basic security.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) This is the day for you to be alert to suggestions from one of

different views to your own that will assist you with daily duties.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Whatever is of a down to earth nature now brings you benefits if you have the wisdom to consult with a business person who savors your position.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Your own success now depends more upon a person of considerable strength of purpose who you have to convince to go along with your plan of life.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You have some limitations at your usual activities that require change in position or you will not have the success you are striving for.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You now need the assistance of a good friend in making some special ability you have to produce the outside results which are vital to such a venture.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You need to have a better understanding with a family member concerning some public or worldly matter before you will have the harmony you desire at home.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Communications to those far and near who can further your interests should be productive of excellent results at this time so get busy at such.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"Even my shadow is mad at me today!"

JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

VENET

OONES

NERKUB

SHURTH

Answer here: HIS

Saturday's Jumbles: LIVEN PUDDY GROUCH NINETY

Answer: What that empty head said when he spoke his mind—NOTHING

THE Daily Crossword by James E. Hirsch Jr.

ACROSS

1. Place to live

10. Picture pooch

14. Olive tree genus

15. Medical council

16. Climb in a way

17. Eating place

19. Lik

Riyadh presses OPEC to act before resorting to unilateral decision

NICOSIA (R) — Saudi Arabia, accusing Iraq of wrecking the oil market, has given OPEC two days to act on world supplies and prices or see the kingdom boost output dramatically.

Asked when the world's biggest exporter would open the taps, Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazer told reporters in Jeddah Saturday night: "In a very short period, very, very short."

He added: "What we want to do is go through OPEC but if they refuse to meet, they leave us no alternative."

Nazer said Saudi Arabia would make up for perhaps 50 per cent of the lost oil production. More than four million barrel a day (b/d) have been lost because of Iraq's Aug. 2 takeover of Kuwait.

He said the United Arab Emirates, a Saudi Gulf ally, and Venezuela could contribute 500,000 b/d each at "short notice" to help fill the gap in supplies.

Both countries have supported Riyadh's call last Thursday for urgent talks by the 13-member Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to raise output.

"We said immediately and immediately means immediately," Nazer said, adding that the kingdom, OPEC's principal member, wanted the group to meet Monday or Tuesday.

"In two weeks or so, we are beginning to have a market that is literally destabilised and is destabilised by Iraqi aggression, not by market forces," he added.

World oil prices have risen by around 40 per cent since the takeover hit supplies and closed even higher Friday on fears of war in the Gulf region. Two-thirds of the world's proven oil reserves are located in the area.

West Texas Intermediate, the benchmark U.S. crude, rose \$1.27 to close at \$28.63 a barrel for September delivery, after adding 90 cents Thursday.

Nazer acknowledged that "opinion was divided" between the over-fratious group.

Iraq, unable to export any crude because of United Nations sanctions, has warned that it considered any unilateral act by the group members to boost production an act of aggression.

Washington and London have authorised their warships to use force to maintain the blockade of Iraq.

Several other OPEC members also oppose an early meeting and prefer instead that the West draw on its stocks, which are at their highest level since 1982.

Algeria, current OPEC president, said Saturday holding an emergency meeting risked causing the collapse of the group which should celebrate its 30th anniversary next month.

Clearly emboldened by the massive deployment of U.S. and other foreign forces in Saudi Arabia to thwart a possible Iraqi attack, Nazer said:

"We do not see how an organisation can simply turn its face to the other side and say there is no crisis. All they need to do is to go

to Kuwait and find one."

The United States and its Western allies, fearing the negative impact of higher prices on their economies, have pressed Saudi Arabia to increase output to cover the shortfall in supplies.

The kingdom has a giant idle capacity over and above its present OPEC quota of 5.38 million b/d.

"It's basically a quid pro quo," a Western oil analyst said of the massive Western military presence in Saudi Arabia.

But Nazer said Saudi Arabia, a major aid donor to developing countries, would not "let countries of the Third World go down the drain."

"If OPEC is not going to consider these things, then of course, they leave it to member-states to defend their interests and that includes of course their decision to make up for the shortfall," he said.

Turkey, an important U.S. ally in the Middle East, has shut Iraqi pipelines.

Nazer said the Iraqi trans-Saudi pipeline IPSA II would not be reopened until "Iraq withdraws its forces from Kuwait and the legitimate authorities are reinstated in Kuwait."

The pipelines across the two countries carried nearly 90 per cent of Baghdad's total oil exports.

The Saudi minister confirmed that Saudi Arabia had turned away two Iraqi tankers which tried to load Iraqi crude at the Saudi Red Sea port of Mu'ajjiz.

Israel share index drops

TEL AVIV (R) — Tel Aviv stock exchange shares, which had partially rebounded last week after a 22 per cent slide, plunged again Sunday because of mounting tension in the Gulf, traders said.

The index of blue-chip stocks fell by seven per cent in early trading, the maximum drop allowed by the exchange in the morning session.

More than half of the blue-chips listed "sellers only" quotes, and the surplus of selling orders totalled some \$80 million by lunch.

Tel Aviv's blue-chip index has fallen by about 13 per cent since Iraq's takeover of Kuwait Aug. 2. It plunged 22 per cent before rebounding nine per cent last week on institutional buying.

"Last week's rebound was against the developments in the Gulf, now the market has to correct itself," one trader said.

Statoil doubles profits

OSLO (R) — Norway's biggest company, state oil firm Statoil, has reported doubled profits in the first half of 1990 compared with the same period a year ago.

Statoil posted a 5.52 billion crown (\$894.6 million) profit before extraordinary items, up from 2.79 billion crowns (\$452.2 million).

"With a crude oil price level of \$20 to \$23 per barrel the result for the second half is expected to be in line with or somewhat better than in the first half of 1990," Statoil said, adding that it expected output to increase.

But Statoil said oil prices for the next six months were very uncertain due to the current situation in the Gulf.

In the first half this year, Brent blend averaged \$17.90 a barrel.

Fields operated by Statoil make up around 1.0 million barrels of oil per day (b/d) of Norway's total oil production, which normally averages 1.7 million b/d.

"Statoil's strong result improvement... is mainly due to improved cost efficiency, higher oil production and reduced finance cost," Statoil said in a statement.

Last year, the company started a scheme to reduce costs by two billion crowns by 1991 and cut staff by around 15 per cent.

Trade ban said to cost Iraq \$70m a day in lost oil income

DUBAI (R) — Iraq has lost nearly \$1 billion in oil revenue in two weeks because of a world trade ban.

Gulf oil traders said Sunday that Baghdad was still notifying customers with contracts to load oil from the northern Gulf but no one wanted to buy Iraqi crude.

"Nobody will load oil from (Iraq's terminal) Mina Al Bakr as long as the trade ban stands and American ships are shooting at tankers," one oil trader in the Gulf said.

More than four million barrels of oil a day have been lost from world markets since Iraq invaded Kuwait Aug. 2. The U.N. imposed punitive trade sanctions against Baghdad Aug. 6.

Since the invasion, Iraq has not been able to sell a barrel of oil. As a result, Baghdad is losing around \$70 million a day in oil revenue, calculated on current prices, oil industry sources in the Gulf said.

"That is a lot of money. They must be having a hard time in Baghdad to make up for it," a Gulf-based oil manager said.

Iraq relies on oil revenues for as much as 95 per cent of its hard currency earnings exchange.

Saudi Arabia has said it stands ready to boost oil exports by two million barrels per day but turning the taps up is not just a matter of a few hours away.

So far, there has been no increase in oil exports out of Saudi Arabia, or the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Iran has repeatedly

said it wants to see the West draw down some of its substantial reserves before considering raising output.

Oil traders said South Korea, the main buyer of Iraq's Fao blend crude sold from Mina Al Bakr, in the northern Gulf, was also honouring the U.N. trade embargo.

The terminal, which has a capacity of around 800,000 barrels per day (b/d), used to export 300,000 barrels per day (b/d) before the trade ban. Iraq's other oil export outlets, two pipelines via Turkey and Saudi Arabia, remain closed.

Baghdad's takeover of Kuwait pushed oil prices in world markets to over \$25 a barrel, which is where Baghdad wanted them a

month ago when it accused Kuwait and the UAE of flooding the market to keep prices low.

The Middle East benchmark crude from Dubai was on sale in London Friday for \$25.90 per barrel.

Iraq used to move around 2.7 million barrels per day of crude in the Mediterranean and Red Sea via the Turkish and Saudi pipelines, and a small amount from Mina Al Bakr.

Turkey closed the jetties at the end of its 1.5 million b/d capacity pipeline Aug. 7 and no tanker has loaded at the Red Sea or northern Gulf since Aug. 2.

Saudi Arabia turned back two Iraqi tankers from the terminal at Mu'ajjiz on the Red Sea rejecting their request to load.

U.S. share of telecommunication equipment market decreases

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. share of world and domestic telecommunications equipment markets is declining, the Commerce Department has said.

It said the falling market share was the result of foreign barriers to competition and reduced productivity and innovation by U.S. companies aiming primarily at short-term profit.

The department said the government and private industry need to take strong, sustained actions to stem the negative balance of trade in telecommunications equipment.

In 1988, that trade balance was a negative \$2.6 billion. A decade earlier, the balance was a positive \$1.1 billion.

Based on a two-year study, the department said the United States remains the world leader in high-tech communications equipment and services, such as sophisticated switching and transmission equipment, but is no

longer competitive in "low-end" equipment such as residential telephones.

The report blamed part of the deficit on barriers to foreign markets, the availability of low-cost capital overseas and export support given foreign companies by their governments.

But the study also cited a trend in which the United States was lagging behind some of other industrialised nations in worker education and training.

A recent survey by the National Alliance of Business found that some U.S. companies must interview seven or eight applicants on average to find one acceptable employee.

The study also said U.S. companies keep their eyes trained too much on the bottom line instead of making long-term investments in research and development and in improving manufacturing processes and technologies.

"U.S. industry can remain the

world leader by taking a long-term view, emphasising research and development spending and improvements in manufacturing technology, and keeping up pressure on export markets," Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher said in a statement.

"The U.S. government will do its part by aggressively pursuing measures to open markets in countries that erect unfair barriers."

Undersecretary Michael Faren said it was an "absolute necessity" that long-term thinking play a larger role at U.S. corporations.

Undersecretary Janice Obuchowski said short-term profit is the top priority for U.S. telecommunications companies whereas, in Japan, the primary goal is to increase world market share.

She said that the United States still leads the world in worker productivity, but that Japan and Britain are gaining.

EC finalises report on absorbing E. Germany

BRUSSELS (R) — With less than two months to go before East Germany becomes part of the European Community (EC), the EC's executive commission this week unveils its blueprint for accommodating a disintegrating economy of 16 million people.

EC experts have been at their desks through the bloc's traditional August break to finalise a special 129-page report spelling out just how the 12-nation Community should bring the eastern part of a united Germany into the fold.

Among their priorities have been agriculture, trade and the environment.

The document is expected to be approved at the extraordinary meeting Tuesday to which the 17 commissioners are being recalled from holiday. They will also chart a detailed course towards a future economic and monetary union.

The commission has found itself taking part in an accelerating race against the clock as Bonn and East Berlin have brought forward the date for merging the two Germanys — and hence making East German territory part of the EC.

Unification, until recently expected in December, is now set to take place around Oct. 14.

Dearer oil spells rough ride for Eastern Europe

LONDON (R) — A big jump in world oil prices since early July has guaranteed an even rougher ride than previously expected for reform-minded Eastern Europe, industry experts say.

Apart from the Soviet Union, the world's biggest oil producer and probably the biggest beneficiary of higher prices, Eastern European countries depend almost totally on imported crude.

Most of their supplies have been coming in subsidised form from the Soviet Union, but soon they must start buying oil on the open market — a real pain threshold.

"This could be devastating for Eastern Europe," said Sanjay Joshi, head of bond research at Daiwa Europe Ltd in London.

"The countries (there) need foreign exchange reserves but this will raise their import bills sharply and lead to reserve shortages."

Their governments would find it even more difficult to redirect investment into domestic restructuring and would probably require balance of payments support, he added.

Some have already been diversifying their sources of crude away from the Soviet Union because of the latter's own supply problems, but they remain heavily dependent on Moscow.

The Soviet Union has been redirecting some oil to the West in order to boost its scarce foreign exchange earnings.

The price of Soviet oil is calculated on a five-year moving aver-

age of the international market price and East Bloc countries have been paying in non-convertible Soviet roubles.

One economist says the current price stands at around \$15 to \$16 per barrel. "It was going to be hard enough for them to cope with a rise from \$15 to \$18 a barrel," said Ingrid Iversen, an economist at American Express Bank.

"But a rise to, say, \$25 per barrel will make things very difficult."

Eastern European countries are talking to Moscow about switching their oil trade to a convertible currency basis starting in 1991. Such a change was already destined to bring a deterioration in their terms of trade, but the recent rise in world oil prices would make it far worse.

ARAMEX

For your urgent documents Aramex introduces a special offer JD 25 on your cash shipment * to any destination in the world

We deliver faster for less.

* 500 gms or less

Call 664590 - Maher

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Sunday, August 19, 1990 Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell		Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	655.0	659.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	443.4	446.1
Pound Sterling	1257.7	1265.2	Deutsche mark	375.6	377.9
Deutsche mark	222.3	224.8	Swedish crown	114.4	115.1
Swiss franc	510.1	513.2	Italian lira (for 100)	57.5	57.8
French franc	126.1	126.9	Belgian franc (for 10)	205.5	206.7

Cinema **RAINBOW** Tel: 625155

Nabila Obeld — Salah Gabeel
In
THE DANCER AND THE POLITICIAN
(Arabic)

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677420

Dured Lahham
Madeline Tabar
In
KAFROUN
ONCE BITTEN

Performances: 3:30, 6:45, 8:45, 10:45

CAR FOR SALE/IRBID
DUTY UNPAID/YELLOW PLATES

U.S. Jeep — International — Scout model 1975 — 4WD — power steering — stereo — radio-cassette-colour red. Price JD 750

Tel. 271100 — 3301

FOR RENT

Fully-furnished roof-top apartment, consisting of three bedrooms, salon, lounge, two bathrooms, kitchen, veranda, spacious terrace, central heating, telephone, television. The building has a lift and a parking for each apartment.

Location: In the best situated place, Um Uthaina, Amman.

For more information please call 630642, Amman.

Deluxe Furnished Apartment For Rent

Consists of 3 bedrooms, 2 salons, dining room, sitting room, 3 bathrooms, 3 verandas, separate utilities, furniture in excellent condition.

Location: between 7th and 8th Circles, near the Royal Automobile Club and Andalus College.

Call tel: 842380, 813249

FOR RENT

Fully furnished apartment in Jabal Amman, Fourth Circle, Al Khalidi Hospital Street.

First floor apt. with 3 bedrooms, dining room, TV/living room, sitting room, 3 bathrooms, one balcony, independent central heating and telephone.

Please call 657148 or 638398.

TODAY... THE GRAND OPENING
3'S COMPANY for garments

3'S COMPANY FOR GARMENTS invites customers to the new shop in Tla'a Al Ali, Gardens Street with newest collection in the world marks with cheapest prices.

Low Prices **LACOSTE CHANEL GUCCI** Low Prices

Dior BOSS valentino POLO benetton

LACOSTE T-Shirt
benetton & POLO T-Shirt
NIKE & adidas Boy's jogging suit
NIKE, adidas & benetton Men's jogging suit

WELCOME DAILY
From 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Tel. 697352

FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

A deluxe furnished apartment, 165 square metres, two bedrooms, American kitchen, big hall + sun room and telephone at Um Uthaina — near Amra Hotel.

Please call 819361 after 4:00 p.m.

INDEPENDENT SMALL FLAT FOR RENT

Fully furnished ground floor, with private gate and garden in two floor family building.

More comfortable than any suite in the most luxurious hotel.

Located in the best residential area, between the 5th & 4th Circles. No. 147 Zahran Street - Jabal Amman.

Consists of salon, dining room, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, and fully equipped kitchen. With central heating, colour T.V., telephone and car park.

If interested please call Tel. 672736.

AMMAN BACCALAUREATE SCHOOL
requires immediately teachers of the following:

English in Junior School
English in Senior School
Social Studies History, Geography, Economics
in English in Senior School

Senior School teaching is for IGCSE and International Baccalaureate (equivalent to GCE 'O' and 'A' levels).

Applicants will be considered for part-time and full-time positions.

Application forms may be obtained from the school and should be returned as soon as possible. Phone 845572-847191.

FOR RENT

Pleasant ground floor 225 m² of a villa with excellent finishing, in Al Jubaila, across the road from the Ministry of Higher Education, has separate entrance and private garden. It consists of 3 bedrooms, parlour, living room, big hall, 2 bathrooms and modern kitchen.

For more information please call: 844962

THIRD FLOOR UNFURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

The apartment consists of 3 bedrooms, living-dining room, 3 bathrooms, kitchen, 2 balconies, garage with a telephone, intercom, elevator, independent central heating and separate water & electricity.

Location: Tla'a Al-Ali - Bustan Street - Opposite Shaker Supermarket.

Telephone: 844966 - 655569

NB: The following items in the apartment are for sale:

1. Brand new moquette covering the whole area of the apartment.
2. Brand new curtains for all windows in the apartment.

Cinema **PHILADELPHIA** Tel: 634144

TWO MOON JUNCTION

Performances: 3:45, 6:15, 8:30 and 10:30 p.m.

Cinema **NIJOUN** Tel: 675571

POLICE ACADEMY 6

Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30
Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 699238

POLICE ACADEMY 6

Performances: 12:30, 3:45, 6:45, 8:45, 10:45

Serbs in Croatia hold autonomy vote as Yugoslavia faces crisis

KNIN, Yugoslavia (R) — Serbs in the Yugoslav Republic of Croatia defied the authorities Sunday and held an autonomy referendum that has sharpened ethnic tensions and pushed the country closer to civil war.

Voting began in the town of Knin near the Adriatic coast after heavily-armed Serbs set up roadblocks to prevent Croatian police stopping the referendum, which is intended to assert the cultural rights of the Serbian minority in Croatia.

Croats and Serbs, Yugoslavia's two largest ethnic groups, have been rivals for centuries. Their relationship traditionally forms the pivot of power in the multi-ethnic country but has deteriorated rapidly since Croatia dethroned Communist rule in May. Croatian authorities say they are victims of an armed rebellion

planned outside Croatia — a charge clearly directed against neighbouring Serbia — and oppose the referendum, saying Serbs have full rights in Croatia.

The Serbs say they would fight if the Croatian police intervened, but the police kept a low profile and there were no reports of clashes as voting began.

Yugoslav President Borisav Jovic, a Serb, defended the Serbs' right to vote. The presidency and the army said they would use all legal means to prevent bloodshed or civil war.

"The situation is very dangerous," Yugoslav army spokesman

Vuk Obradovic said. "The Yugoslav army will stop any attempt to start a fratricidal war anywhere in Yugoslavia."

Voting began briskly in Knin, which is at the heart of a Croatian region where Serbs from a majority, although it was not known how many other towns were voting.

The Serbs, some armed with sawn-off shotguns and grenades, set up a roadblock at the weekend by felling three and mounted patrols. Local police handed out guns to Serbian reservists in an apparent mutiny but there were no clashes or injuries.

Leaders of the 600,000 Serbs in Croatia's 4.5 million population want more education, language and cultural rights, but have not made clear what they plan to do after the referendum.

Some voters were not sure that they were voting for.

The Serbs say they have been discriminated against since the centre-right Croatian Democratic Union rode a wave of nationalist sentiment to beat the Communists last May in the republic's first three elections since World War II.

They fear a repeat of the slaughter in the civil war fought during World War II, when they say several hundred thousand Serbs and Gypsies were killed by Croatian fascists.

But Croatian officials say the Serbs have no evidence of persecution and accuse Communist-ruled Serbia, the largest republic, of trying to destabilise the Croatian government and assert its dominance over all Yugoslavia.

Soviet troops reportedly to start withdrawing from East Germany

WEST BERLIN (AP) — The Soviet Union plans to start withdrawing its troops from East Germany ahead of schedule, a West German newspaper reported Saturday.

The Hamburg-based newspaper Bild am Sonntag said in an article released to other news media that the withdrawal of some of the estimated 370,000 Soviet troops stationed in East Germany could begin as early as next week.

The newspaper said the pullout of Moscow's largest military force outside the Soviet Union could be completed by the end of next year.

Bild am Sonntag did not iden-

tify its sources, and the duty officer at the Soviet embassy in East Berlin had no comment.

But a West German Foreign Ministry spokesman in Bonn denied that the pullout would be completed by the end of 1991.

The official, Juergen Chrobog, said the timetable would follow the agreement reached last month by West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. They agreed that the withdrawal would be spread out over three to four years.

However, Bild quoted Horst Telschick, a top aide to Gorbachev, as saying he would not exclude the possibility the withdrawal would

take place at a faster tempo than agreed upon earlier.

Bild said that according to NATO reports, about 10,000 trains with 50 cars each are needed to take all the troops home.

East Germans have already begun to express impatience with the Soviet troops' continued presence. Graffiti saying "Russens raus" (Russians out) is not uncommon in towns where Soviet soldiers are stationed.

Soviet troops have already started pulling out of Czechoslovakia and Hungary as the once formidable Warsaw Pact disintegrates in the face of democratic changes in Eastern Europe.

Indian premier visits Punjab

AMRITSAR, India (R) — Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh travelled into the heartland of a violent Sikh separatist campaign in Punjab Sunday.

Ringed by commandos dressed in black overalls and armed with automatic weapons, Singh met crowds at several places on a five-hour visit including a drive from the Sikh holy city of Amritsar to areas on India's border with Pakistan.

Singh told a public meeting at Lopoke that he would tour Punjab, partly on foot, in September after the current session of parliament to meet people before deciding on a date for state elections. Sunday's visit was his fifth to Punjab.

Punjab has been under direct rule from New Delhi since May, 1987, when the state government was dismissed because of rising violence caused by the campaign for a Sikh nation called Khalistan or land of the pure.

Nearly 2,200 people have been killed so far this year in Punjab violence.

At Lopoke, Singh told a crowd of about 6,000 people: "I would come to Punjab to gain your confidence. Your love would be my security. Even if I am killed, my body should not be taken away from Punjab, the land of the brave."

Security men in plainclothes and uniform formed a large section of the crowd.

Singh said his National Front Alliance had taken several steps to soothe Sikh sentiments since coming to power in a November general election.

The steps included rehabilitation of soldiers who mutinied after the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi ordered the army to storm the Sikhs' holiest shrine, Amritsar's Golden Temple, in June, 1984 to flush out Sikh separatists.

He said special courts were also set by the National Front government to try those accused of taking part or instigating riots against Sikhs in north India in revenge for the killing of Indira Gandhi by two Sikh bodyguards in October, 1984.

"Sikh pride has been hurt... our endeavour is to restore your faith in the government and the people's faith in you," he said.

Singh also visited a paramilitary post at Ramkot to inspect a fence being put up along Punjab's border with Pakistan to prevent what India says are infiltrators crossing into the state from Pakistan. He flew back to New Delhi in the afternoon.

Tense calm returns to Soweto

SOWETO, South Africa (R) — Black commentators appealed Sunday for peace talks to end South Africa's week-old "hostel war" that has killed more than 260 people, but the barricaded townships remained extremely tense.

Residents said South Africa's largest black township Soweto passed a peaceful night after helmeted troops moved in to quell battles between followers of anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela and his main rival Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

"Dr. Mandela and Dr. Buthelezi, if you want to command the respect you previously had from your people, for God's sake bury your petty differences," Black City Press newspaper editor Khulu Sibiyi wrote in a front-page letter.

Aggrey Klaaste, editor of the Sowetan said apartheid "was no excuse for acts of violence... the responsibility to get things right in South Africa lies heavily upon us (blacks)."

"We didn't sleep for three nights, but it's a bit better now," said Madipone Montjane, a resident of the Pimville area of Soweto, whose street is barricaded by large concrete pipes and rocks.

"It's okay, but anything can happen. You can't see trouble coming," said a man a few streets away near Nancefield hostel, whose Zulu migrant workers have attacked Pimville residents.

Silent groups of shotgun-carrying police and stick-wielding black men dressed in rags stood watching each other.

The fighting has pitted the Zulus, mostly loyal to the traditionalist Inkatha Movement of Chief Buthelezi, against the residents, many of them loyal to Mandela's African National Congress (ANC).

Police said 70 people had been killed and 417 wounded in three days of murderous spear and gun battles in Soweto in an extension of chronic ANC-Inkatha conflict in coastal Natal province which has cost more than 4,000 lives.

As police moved into Soweto fresh trouble flared in Thokoza, one of three townships southeast of Johannesburg where at least 170 people were killed earlier in the week in fighting between residents and Zulu hostel dwellers.

Twenty-four people were killed in fighting at Thokoza's Phola Park squatter camp and three people were killed near Benrose and Denver hostels in the city deep area.

Bodies were recovered throughout the night in Phola Park, a shack shum adjoining a hostel for workers from the provinces.

The bodies of three blacks burnt beyond recognition were found at Vereeniging town south of Johannesburg.

Bhutto launches robust defence of her rule

ISLAMABAD (R) — Ousted Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto Sunday robustly defended her 20 months in power and called her dismissal an attempt to stop democracy.

As anti-Bhutto forces met in the capital to work out their strategy for October elections, the 37-year-old leader of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) virtually launched her campaign.

"Whether we talk in economic terms, political terms, social terms or terms of international reference my government went from strength to strength," Bhutto told a news conference that was more a political rally.

"It was to prevent my government and to prevent democracy from becoming entrenched that my government was summarily removed," she said.

President Ghulam Ishaq Khan dismissed Bhutto on Aug. 6 and ordered new elections for Oct. 24, citing massive abuses of power and corruption to justify his decision.

Caretaker Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi said Bhutto and her colleagues would face a judicial probe into charges of corruption, but has yet to start the process.

Nawaz Sharif, who heads the

main anti-Bhutto group the Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA), at the weekend described Bhutto's rule as the "darkest days in recent Pakistani history."

But he said any attempt to have her disqualified from public office must wait until after elections, adding: "I want to take her on at the polls."

Bhutto refuses to submit herself to any special tribunal and accuses the caretaker government of offering millions of rupees to find evidence against her. She has accused many of her political enemies of wrongdoing.

"We will not let a bunch of blackmailers drive us out of the political field through these wild charges," she said, calling allegations against her and her husband, Asif Ali Zardari, hurtful and degrading.

"Any election in which I do not take part will not be an election," she said.

Bhutto said she had left Pakistan better off than she had found it.

"I would say that we were unceremoniously sacked not because we were incompetent but because we were too competent," she said, calling the caretaker government a discredited bunch of opportunists.

Bombs explode in Manila; officer killed in ambush

MANILA (R) — Four bombs

exploded outside government offices and commercial buildings in the Philippine capital in the space of eight hours and a security aide of a city mayor was killed by unknown gunmen, police said Sunday.

The series of bomb blasts Saturday night and early Sunday injured on one person, shattered glass doors and windows and blew craters in pavements, they said.

Government troops were already on nationwide alert after rightwing rebel leader Gregorio Honasan Wednesday threatened a fresh offensive against the government of President Corason Aquino as it grapples with the economic impact of the Gulf crisis and last month's major earthquake.

Officials dismissed his threat as propaganda but assembled 3,000 troops, tanks and artillery for a show of strength at armed forces headquarters Saturday. Aquino has survived six coup attempts in the past four years.

A security aide of Quezon City Mayor Brigidio Simon was shot dead by two gunmen on a motorcycle as he was driving home in the Manila region Saturday night, police said.

They said the attackers blocked Captain Raymond Venus's motorcycle and sprayed him with bullets. Police said they were still investigating whether the murder was linked to the string of bomb

blasts.

Honasan, leader of last December's coup by army dissidents that nearly toppled Aquino, has vowed to oust her before her term expires in 1992, accusing her of weak leadership and tolerating corruption.

"If they stage a coup, we are ready for it. It would be foolish for them to try anything," Armed Forces Deputy Chief Major-General Rodolfo Biazon said Saturday.

"We don't believe they could mount a serious coup. The most they can do are terrorist acts and bombings. But we have to be prepared," he told reporters.

The first of four bombs exploded a few metres away from a police station inside a government office compound in Manila. Nobody was injured in the blast.

Bomb expert patrolman Jojo Capacete said the bomb, made out of military-type explosives, was lobbed from a car. A second bomb exploded outside a shopping mall in another part of the capital, shattering glass panels of two stores.

The third one went off minutes later outside a food company building also in the capital, injuring a security guard and destroying glass panels and doors of the building.

The guard, Roberto Chavez, said he had just returned from an inspection of the building when he heard an explosion. He suffered superficial wounds

Hostility affects army discipline, Soviet defence minister says

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Defence Minister Dmitry Yazov has complained that increasing public hostility to the armed forces is undermining discipline.

"We see the spread of discrimination against officers, direct moral and physical insults against them and the development of unhealthy circumstances around military bases," Yazov said in a speech published Sunday in the Defence Ministry daily Krasnaya Zvezda.

Yazov, seeking to ease disquiet in the forces over cutbacks, ethnic clashes and housing shortages, said that people hostile to the military were trying to sow division between the Defence Ministry and army.

"Several media are cultivating anti-army feeling," he added in the speech Friday to officers in the southern district of Odessa.

Valentin Pankin, the deputy

chief of the Soviet Air Force, warned in an interview in the same newspaper that morale could fall and spoke of a "pacifist euphoria" sweeping the media.

As perestroika has reduced public awe of the Soviet army, local communities have increasingly begun to protest over pollution and other disruption caused by camps.

The armed forces leadership has also been fiercely criticised for actions over the last year in Georgia and Azerbaijan that cost hundreds of civilian lives.

Yazov also said there was an increase in "such practices as refusal to serve and desertion... organised attempts are under way to disrupt the (twice-yearly) call-up to national service."

He said only 7.5 per cent of young men had complied with the call up in the southern Republic of Armenia, where the government is considering setting up its

own army, and 28 per cent in neighbouring Georgia.

"All this has its effect on the armed forces, on their reform, on the state of their discipline," he said.

He said the Defence Ministry was doing everything possible to ease the shortage of homes facing many officers — a problem made worse by the return of troops from Eastern Europe.

But he acknowledged that "the number of people without flats in the armed forces is growing rather than decreasing."

Pankin, deputy chief of the Soviet Air Force, said reforms were being hindered by a pacifist euphoria nurtured in the media. Such a mood, he said, was not justified by U.S. actions.

While the Soviet Union withdrew forces stationed outside its frontiers, Washington showed no sign of reducing its forward-based forces in Europe, he said.

3 found guilty in New York jogger trial

NEW YORK (AP) — Three teen-agers were convicted of rape and assault and found innocent of attempted murder Saturday in an attack on an investment banker jogging in New York's Central Park.

The jury also found the three, Antron McCray, 16, Yusef Salaam, 16 and Raymond Santana, 15, innocent of sodomy in the highly publicised case that caught the attention of the nation.

The jogger was found lying senseless in a pool of blood after the April 19, 1989, attack.

She battled back from her near-fatal injuries, returned to work and to jogging within eight months of the attack, and is currently a vice president for a Wall Street firm.

Salaam, McCray and Santana were ordered remanded to jail without bail.

Salaam and McCray had been free on \$25,000 bail. Santana had been unable to make the bail.

The three each faced from five to 10 years in prison on the rape count. They were to be sentenced as juvenile offenders on Sept. 11.

The defendants showed no emotion at all when the verdict was read. The jurors looked tired and haggard.

The three also were convicted of charges stemming from an attack on two male joggers in the park that night.

According to prosecutors, the woman was jogging through the northern end of the park at about 10 p.m. at night when she was attacked. She was dragged about 21 metres into the woods, gang-raped and bashed repeatedly with a brick.

Prosecutors said the three were seen running away from the scene of the attack. They were seen running away from the scene of the attack.

The three were seen running away from the scene of the attack. They were seen running away from the scene of the attack.

The three were seen running away from the scene of the attack. They were seen running away from the scene of the attack.

The three were seen running away from the scene of the attack. They were seen running away from the scene of the attack.

The three were seen running away from the scene of the attack. They were seen running away from the scene of the attack.

The three were seen running away from the scene of the attack. They were seen running away from the scene of the attack.

The three were seen running away from the scene of the attack. They were seen running away from the scene of the attack.

The three were seen running away from the scene of the attack. They were seen running away from the scene of the attack.

The three were seen running away from the scene of the attack. They were seen running away from the scene of the attack.

The three were seen running away from the scene of the attack. They were seen running away from the scene of the attack.

The three were seen running away from the scene of the attack. They were seen running away from the scene of the attack.

The three were seen running away from the scene of the attack. They were seen running away from the scene of the attack.

The three were seen running away from the scene of the attack. They were seen running away from the scene of the attack.

The three were seen running away from the scene of the attack. They were seen running away from the scene of the attack.

The three were seen running away from the scene of the attack. They were seen running away from the scene of the attack.

U.K. spy 'betrayed 600 agents'

LONDON (R) — British double agent George Blake, who escaped from prison and fled to Moscow 24 years ago, said in an interview published Sunday that he had betrayed more than 600 British agents to the Soviet Union.

Blake, jailed in 1961 for identifying 42 British spies in Eastern Europe while working for Britain's MI6 intelligence-gathering network, said he did not regret having given the names of the agents to the Soviets, the Sunday Express newspaper reported, quoting a television interview.

The newspaper said Blake's confession would shock British intelligence services because he was previously thought to have betrayed only the 42 agents to the KGB.

Blake, 67, speaking publicly for the first time since he escaped from Wormwood Scrubs Prison in 1966, gave the interview in a British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) documentary to be broadcast next month.

He agreed to break his silence after receiving permission from the KGB.

Blake denied that the people he betrayed were executed and said the KGB promised no agents he identified would be killed, but rather sent to prison.

"No deaths? He can't believe that, can he? It's preposterous, particularly in that period," commented Sir Dick White, former MI6 director general, who helped interrogate Blake after he was discovered to be a KGB spy.

White said MI6 had never known how many agents Blake betrayed and said he was stunned by the figure of 600.

Blake said for years he carried a tiny camera and photographed

"every secret document" that came his way while working for MI6.

Among Blake's damaging disclosures were details of an MI6 telephone-tapping operation in Vienna of a cable used by Soviet and KGB officials.

He is also alleged to have betrayed a multi-million dollar operation called "Berlin Tunnel," set up by MI6 and the U.S. CIA intelligence services to bug Soviet military communications.

"This was the most important thing he could have told the KGB... that's why he's been looked after so carefully," White said.

Blake, who was seen in public last year at the funeral of another British double-agent, Kim Philby, is reported to be living a privileged life as a Soviet official with his Soviet wife and 19-year-old son.

Experts predict delays in Magellan's mission

PASADENA, California (AP) — Engineers say there may be delays in Magellan's mission to photograph Venus after the orbiter temporarily lost contact with Earth last week.

But the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) said the first pictures will nonetheless be released Tuesday.

Scientists already know that a malfunction made one of Magellan's computers stop sending signals called "heartbeats" to another computer last Thursday night, said Magellan project engineer David Okerson.

The glitch prompted the spacecraft to go into a safety mode that cut off contact with Earth, then sent radio signals across space in a long, but successful effort to restore its radio link with controllers.

A steady backup was re-es-

tablished Friday night after nearly 15 hours of no radio contact followed by eight hours of intermittent contact.

Laboratory spokeswoman Mary Beth Murrill said Saturday that time would be needed to diagnose and fix the original problem, delaying efforts to make the best pictures and maps yet of Venus' cloud-covered surface.

Although Okerson said he couldn't predict the likelihood of delay, he said engineers are still aiming to start mapping Venus on Aug. 29 as planned.

The engineers lost contact with Magellan Thursday night just after it bounced radar waves off Venus for a test and sent the information to Earth.

The data were assembled into Magellan's first pictures of Venus, which displayed "venus-quake" faults, volcanic cinder

cone and broad plains covered by old lava flows.

The pictures will be released Tuesday, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration said.

Magellan was launched from the shuttle Atlantis on its \$744-million mission on May 4, 1989. It went into orbit around Venus on Aug. 10 after a circuitous trip of 948 million miles (1.5 billion kilometres).

Magellan remained in a safety mode Saturday, following simple computer instructions meant to keep it in contact with Earth by pointing its secondary antenna at its home planet.

To obtain information needed to learn what went wrong Thursday, engineers commanded the spacecraft to transmit all of the information in its computer memories back to Earth, Murrill said.

Magellan's secondary antenna sends a much broader radio beam to Earth than the main antenna. But it sends data at a painfully slow 40 bits per second, so unloading Magellan's memory banks proceeded at a crawl.

Okerson said engineers were working to increase the speed 30-fold, to 1,200 bits per second. But at that rate, the secondary antenna's signal is weak because Magellan and Venus are nearing their most distant point from Earth, on the other side of the sun some 147 million miles (236 million kilometres) away.

To receive the high-speed data, officials of NASA's deep space network were arranging to link a large antenna dish in California and the dish that normally tracks Magellan, Okerson said.

Similar steps also may be taken at the network's tracking stations in Australia and Spain, he added.



Hot dog 'with everything' leads to drug charge

GUADALAJARA, Mexico (AP) — A man asked a street vendor for "a hot dog with everything" and got it. And how. The vendor gave him the hot dog and a small packet of cocaine and charged him 125,000 pesos — about \$42. The buyer, a police agent, had inadvertently stumbled into a cocaine outlet, the Excelsior News Service reported Friday. Police arrested Teresa Esparza Paez, 60, two sons and five other people and confiscated more than three pounds of cocaine. Investigators said "a hot dog with everything" apparently was the code used by cocaine buyers who frequented the stand.

Tiny woman barred from displaying herself

OTTAWA (R) — Ruby Raddler, who is just 29 inches (75 cm) tall and claims to be the world's smallest woman, has been barred from displaying herself at a Canadian exhibition because it has a rule barring freak shows. Raddler sits on a stool and fields questions from an audience whose members pay \$1 each to see her. A spokesman for the Central Canadian exhibition, a mixture of fun fair and trade show, said Friday, "we can't allow anyone's disability to be the feature-attraction of our show."

Dominic Vivona, chairman of Amusements of America, who booked entertainment for the show, said, "they said anyone who's a freak, anyone of that nature — is not allowed. If she sang or danced it would be different, but people just go in and look at her."

Raddler was unavailable for comment but told the Canadian Press news agency she did not mind being exploited.

"If they stage a coup, we are ready for it. It would be foolish for them to try anything," Armed Forces Deputy Chief Major-General Rodolfo Biazon said Saturday.

"We don't believe they could mount a serious coup. The most they can do are terrorist acts and bombings. But we have to be prepared," he told reporters.

The first of four bombs exploded a few metres away from a police station inside a government office compound in Manila. Nobody was injured in the blast.

Bomb expert patrolman Jojo Capacete said the bomb, made out of military-type explosives, was lobbed from a car. A second bomb exploded outside a shopping mall in another part of the capital, shattering glass panels of two stores.

The third one went off minutes later outside a food company building also in the capital, injuring a security guard and destroying glass panels and doors of the building.

The guard, Roberto Chavez, said he had just returned from an inspection of the building when he heard an explosion. He suffered superficial wounds

Bush signs AIDS bill

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine (AP) — President George Bush has signed a \$882-million AIDS emergency bill that for the first time will allow direct federal grants to 16 cities hardest hit by the viral epidemic. Bush affirmed his signature without public comment Saturday